



NEWS RELEASE

Issued 28 September 2009

Village hall makeover completed

Bolton Memorial Hall has had a makeover thanks to financial support from Eden District Council.

Following several years of repair work the hall committee decided that it was time to have a complete re-decoration of the main hall and kitchen area and replace the curtains. The aim was to help make the hall more attractive to current and potential users so that it can be more sustainable in the future.

The committee took guidance from Carl Glynn, Village Hall adviser at Action With Communities in Cumbria (ACT), on how to seek funding to assist with the cost estimated at £6,725. Carl suggested that an application should be made to Eden District Council (EDC) for a Village Hall Grant. EDC is able to award grants of up to 40% towards capital costs for improvement works, to a maximum of £2,500 to village halls in Eden District.

Earlier this year, the committee heard that it had been successful in its application to EDC for the maximum amount and the work commenced. The first job was for the committee to prepare the hall for re-decoration. Sisson's Decorators undertook the work within the target time of 1 week and then Highlight Blinds installed flame retardant vertical blinds.

Maureen Lamb of Bridge Studios was tasked with replacing the old curtain tracks with poles and making fully lined blackout and flame retardant curtains.

Claire Hudson, Bolton Memorial Hall committee member, who applied for the grant and managed the renovation project said, "Now that all of the work has been completed, the committee and regular users are very pleased with the result. The interior of the main hall and kitchen now looks well co-ordinated and has a much fresher feel.

"The committee would like to thank everyone for their support at various fundraising events that have been held over recent months to help raise the money to cover the remainder of the costs.

"This work, along with the insulation of the loft space that was undertaken in 2008, helps to make the hall a much more attractive and comfortable place to be. It is much more appealing to potential hirers and it is hoped that bookings will increase as a result of the improvements".

Bolton Exchange group that now uses the hall on a weekly basis, plans to run additional events for the community in the future, such as film nights and other social events. The new look hall helps to make the weekly meetings more attractive to their regular volunteers, supports and visitors and complements the new equipment that it brings to the hall.

- Ends -

Photo:



Bolton Memorial Hall committee members and young village residents: Cathy Smith, Alan Barker, Claire Hudson, Erin Taylor, Christine Taylor and Tom Barker (12) and Craig Taylor (10) holding the Eden District Council plaque to mark the grant given to the Memorial Hall.

Further press information available from:

Claire Hudson, Action with Communities in Cumbria (ACT) – Enterprise Officer
Tel: 01768 869538 or Email: clairehudson@cumbriaaction.org.uk

Carl Glynn, Action with Communities in Cumbria (ACT) – Village Halls Adviser
Tel: 01768 869525 or Email: carllynn@cumbriaaction.org.uk

Notes to Editors:

Action with Communities in Cumbria

(Previously known as Voluntary Action Cumbria)

- ACT is Cumbria's Rural Community Council and a registered charity.
- ACT is working with people and communities to improve the quality of life in rural Cumbria.
- ACT is an independent organisation able to work with a wide range of partners on an open and equitable basis.
- Established in 1948, for 60 years ACT has been supporting communities that are socially, economically and environmentally vibrant where the needs of all are considered.
- To find out more information, please visit ACT's website: www.cumbriaaction.org.uk