

Appendix 3 – Community Expressions of Support

Excerpt from Corfe Valley News for July 2014

CORFE CASTLE PARISH COUNCIL

Councillors were pleased to receive an address from representatives of the Village Hall Committee during the Public Half Hour about their extension and improvements project for the Corfe Castle Village Hall. The Village Hall was erected during 1986/7 and the Committee suggests it needs changes and modernisation to remain fit for purpose. Consultation with residents and local user groups took place in 2013 and the information received was used to specify the current design. The resultant plans being taken forward by an architect to the Planning Department at the District Council resulting in full planning consent in October last year. They estimate the full cost of the development to be in the region of £750,000 excluding VAT. A business case has been drafted in order to procure funding from the Big Lottery and other potential funders. The Village Hall Committee has looked into phasing the development so that the costs can be identified by resulting benefit and addressed more flexibly. They asked the Parish Council to treat the project as part of a Village Plan for the future (not as just a Village Hall Plan) and to enter into a partnership with them along with other village organisations. The Members discussed the proposals and decided to support the project as presented to the meeting and were ready to consider being part of a partnership with other local groups if asked. Mr. Eustace of the National Trust also welcomed the partnership approach as the Trust itself is a Village Hall user.