

## Debden New Village Hall Group



**Debden New Village Hall Group (NVHG) remains committed to replacing the existing village hall with a new building to serve the needs of this community and future generations.**

The next key stage is the holding of two Open Days to give everyone in Debden a further opportunity to study the current plans, talk to the architects, NVHG professionals and village hall Trustees about the design and how it was arrived at, and to suggest changes and why they may be needed. Open Days will be held on:

**Saturday June 28, 11.30 am - 2.30pm in the Village Hall and  
Monday June 30, 7.30 - 9.30pm in the New Room at the Parish Church.**

Despite the fact that NVHG has consulted with the village on the project for more than a year, it is clear that some residents have concerns over aspects of the design and how the hall will be funded. NVHG is therefore honouring its undertaking at a public meeting in January to continue the consultation.

In addition to the opportunity to discuss the design and future use of the hall, new information will be presented including the experience of other village halls, projected uses of the building, construction and running costs, likely future revenues, how the hall might be affected by population trends, and the views of youngsters and young families – our future generations.

**The new village hall is one of the biggest projects undertaken in Debden. We hope every household will be represented at one of the Open Days.**

Fundraising to date, from three external bodies and money raised within the community, has covered costs of the first stage of the project: preparation work including consultation with user groups and partner organisations, background research and production of architectural plans that currently have the approval of Uttlesford Council. The balance in the new hall fund remains available for matched-funding to support bids to potential grant providers.

Despite a great deal of hard work by NVHG's fundraising team, we were unsuccessful with our bid to Viridor that would have paid for the main construction. A new round of fundraising through private and public organisations as well as within Debden, will begin after the Open Days, which are designed to provide us with a clear mandate to get on with the job.

The 17 NVHG volunteers, who have recently been joined by two more villagers to help with fundraising, continue to work very hard on your behalf to provide a new village hall that we can all be proud of.

**Like to help? If you have fundraising or other skills, please contact:  
Richard Simmonds (NVHG community representative): 01799 541084**

