

Missing Link!



Brookthorpe-with-Whaddon Newsletter - **Distributed November 2022**

Christmas 2022

So this is your last chance this year to join us in celebrating Christmas 2022 after a very difficult year following Covid 19 and all its trials and tribulations.

As a Committee we have worked hard over the past 2/3 years to ensure the Hall remains open and available for hire. We have managed to acquire grants sufficient to allow us to now refurbish the Hall and its facilities, as you will see on the next page of this Newsletter.

This doesn't just happen, it's the culmination of a lot of time and effort on our part and we invite you to support us and attend this last event of 2022 before all of this work begins.

As always children are particularly welcome but please bring yourselves and enjoy a drink and mince pie etc. Alcoholic beverages as well as teas and coffees available of course!

Eric Hibbert (Whaddon)
Chairman of the Trustees

JOIN US AT
Brookthorpe Village Hall
TO
Celebrate Christmas

Sat 17th Dec
2pm to 5pm

Adults & Children Welcome

Music, Stalls, Gifts for Children, Teas &
Coffees, Mulled Wine and Mince Pies -
Relax and enjoy a fun few hours!

ANNUAL VILLAGE HALL CHRISTMAS DRAW
AT 3.30PM

(For draw tickets contact Vicki Smart:
07720499221 or email:
Brookthorpevillagehall@gmail.com)

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Produced by Eric Hibbert - (Whaddon) hibberteric@yahoo.com

Brookthorpe Village Hall Closure 2023

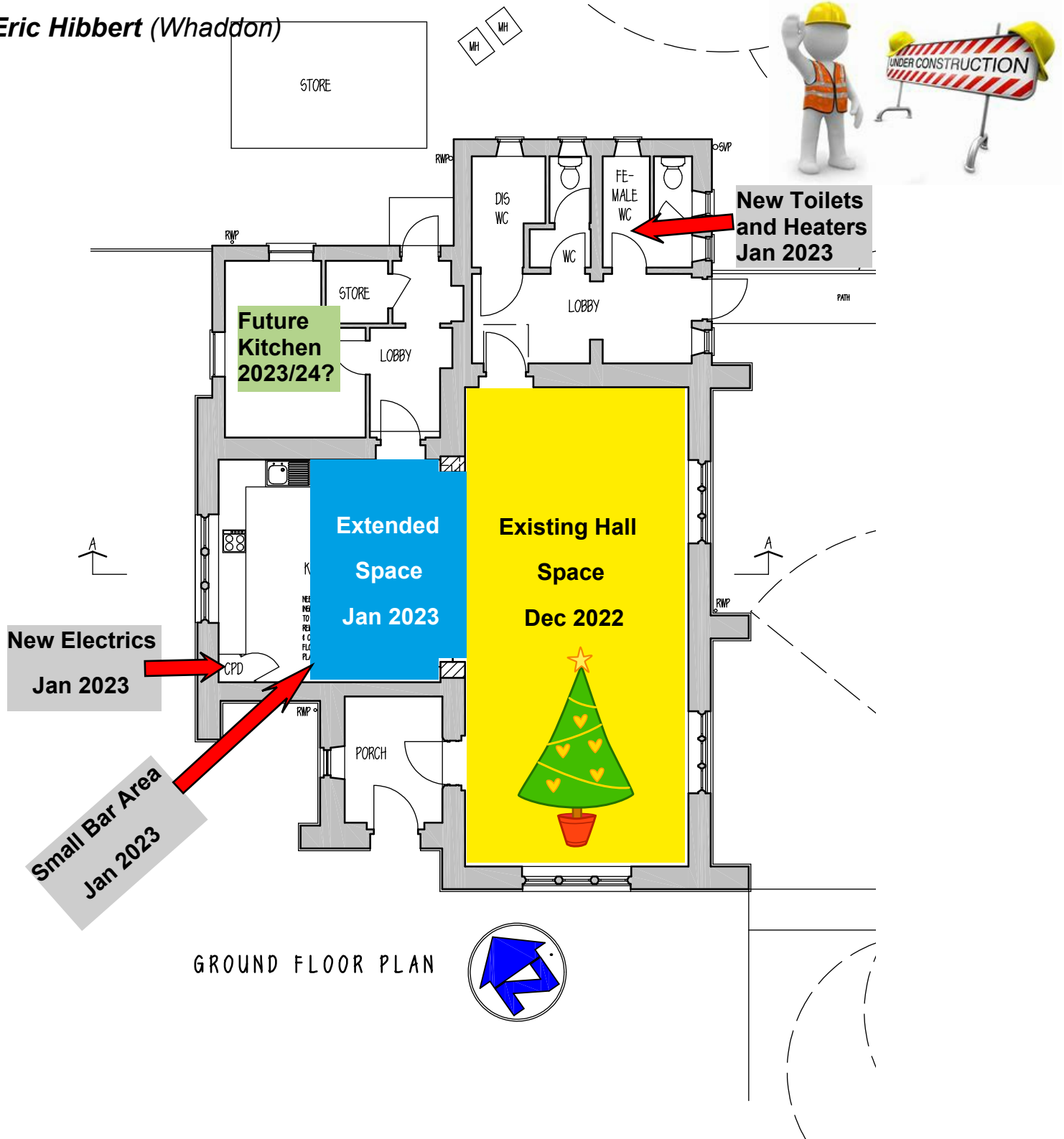
Advanced warning was previously given that the Hall would likely close after the Christmas Party, which is now being held on 17th December 2.0pm to 5.0pm (see front page).

We are planning to carry out major internal alterations to the Hall in order to create more space, making best use of the under utilised kitchen area which is quite sizeable in itself. Two thirds of the Kitchen area will therefore be added to the Hall Space giving greater comfort and more room to manoeuvre when functions are held.

Other works being carried out include Electrical, Plumbing, thorough cleaning and re-decoration throughout. So a whole new and refreshing scene for 2023.

It is anticipated that the Hall will reopen at the end of January - all being well!

Eric Hibbert (Whaddon)



Halloween at Brookthorpe Village Hall -

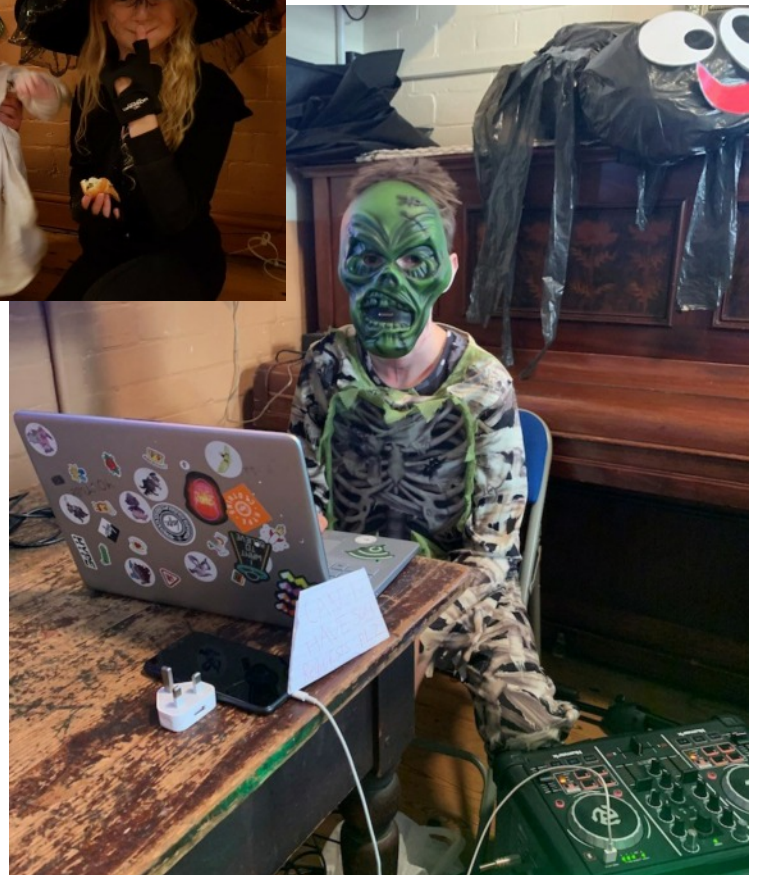
On Sunday 30th October the Village Hall was host to ghouls and ghosts for our annual Halloween party.

Both children and adults enjoyed the pumpkin carving and cake decorating. There were lots of gruesome creations and all the children enjoyed the spooky sweet treats throughout the afternoon.

Our terrifyingly talented resident DJ - 'Zombie George', supplied the Halloween music and there was even a bar open for those adults that needed some extra courage to get them through this ghoulish event!!

As always, thank you to those on the Village Hall committee who took time to decorate the hall and make this free event possible and to those who came and enjoyed the day.

Vicki Smart - (Brookthorpe)





- a Latest Summary-

The biggest single issue for us will be Taylor Wimpey's own plans for St. Barnabas, now being modelled and which we see after Christmas. We plan to have a public meeting for residents here and in Tuffley with a response going into the Planning Inspectors. County Highways have said within recent weeks that the Plan's traffic mitigation is not supported by them as it involves road widening at St. Barnabas. Taylor Wimpey have to satisfy the County that they can solve this unless they offer a new Masterplan for walkable neighbours in Whaddon with new accesses to the West under the railway line. So far, the developers at Tuffley Farm have not offered any solutions publicly.

A major objection to the Taylor Wimpey plans is their decision to move their transport hub from behind Whaddon Garage to the field next to St. Margaret's Church against the requirements of Historic England. The Plan shows that the reduction in traffic resulting from this would only be about 10% and there is evidence that Park & Rides are not in fact used on the other sites in Gloucester. The Parish Council lodged a particular objection to this idea saying that the site is totally inappropriate and would achieve its targets for traffic reduction.

We shall hear in the coming months whether Taylor Wimpey will make a Planning Application regardless of the outcome of the Plan Examination. It has already been discussed with their agents and may be determined by a different Planning Inspector if refused by Stroud DC. The stated policy of the Council is to refuse any such planning application until Gloucester City have made a request for housing and they have said that they will not decide on their requirements along with Cheltenham and Tewkesbury until May or June. Anyone can respond to a planning application which would be publicised locally by the Council in the usual way.

Finally, the Department of Education has recently decided not to fund a Free School at Brookthorpe until at least 2028 and the Beacon Trust have withdrawn their interest.

Martin Coles (Whaddon)



Remember This From August 2021?



Late News Item!

Cotswold Homes Sales Office which has been a temporary resident in our car park for several months now are likely to extend their stay until early spring of 2023.

This has been a convenient arrangement for them and during a slow return to normality post covid 19 has provided us with some welcome regular income which we will continue to benefit from.

Eric Hibbert - (Whaddon)



Follow Up - St. Swithun's Church – Brookthorpe

Regarding the structural issues at St Swithun's Church in Brookthorpe.

The issues regarding subsidence in the Tower and Vestry area are being progressed. Clive Dawson, the Structural Engineer, has submitted a provisional drawing with other detailed drawings currently being worked on. The Churches Conservation Trust Architect, Nigel Hammett, and Meriel O'Dowd, the Conservation Projects Manager, West, will then consider the repair proposals. A schedule of works and a Quantity Surveyor will enable a cost estimate to be prepared. Then the next step is one of raising the necessary funds to enable repairs to be undertaken!

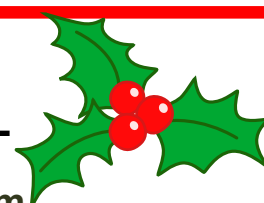
I will keep the Parish Council informed when I have further information.

Paul Gaze - (Brookthorpe)

- Village Hall Christmas Draw Tickets 2022 -

Please support the Hall by buying tickets this year from -

- **Vicki Smart - (Brookthorpe) - brookthorpevillagehall@gmail.com**
- **Eric Hibbert - (Whaddon) - hibberteric@gmail.com**
- **Or on the day of the Draw - cash or card welcome on the day!**
- **Your purchase helps support the Hall and therefore the Community!**



£1 997

Name _____

Phone _____

Address _____

Email _____

Brookthorpe Village Hall

997



Draw to take place
on 17th December 2022
at the Village Hall

Registered Charity No: 301479
Promoter: Victoria Smart, East Barn, Stroud Road, Brookthorpe,
Gloucester GL4 0UJ

TICKETS £1 EACH

PRIZES INCLUDE:
VOUCHERS,
TURKEY,
HAMPER,
SPIRITS
AND MUCH MORE!



Parish Council News and Views

Defibrillator Contracts – At its October meeting the Parish Council agreed and signed contracts for the next 4 years with South Western Ambulance Service, to provide, insure and maintain the 3 defibrillators in the Parish. For anyone who is not aware, they can be found in the phone box at the Village Hall, inside Fagins, and outside the Old Rectory in Church Lane, Whaddon.

Defibrillators Training – As part of the contract signed with South Western Ambulance Service it is agreed to provide a training session once a year, free to members of the public.

The next session has been booked for 3rd March 2023, 6.30 at the Village Hall. As mentioned, this is completely free to all parishioners. However, to give some idea of numbers it is necessary to book your place. This can be done by email on brookthorpe@gmail.com or Phone 01452 536940. This training could save someone's life.

Consultation Response Draft Local Plan – Mr Martin Coles has worked tirelessly on behalf of the Parish Council to put a response together. This has been agreed by the Councillors and sent off to the Inspectorate. The Parish Council thanks Martin for his hard work on this matter. This response can be found on the Parish Council website www.brookthorpewithwhaddon-pc.gov.uk.

Parish Council Grants – At the November meeting of the Parish Council it was resolved to grant the Village Hall £1750 towards refurbishment of the Hall and £750 towards the upkeep of St Swithun's Churchyard in line with the Council's grant awarding policy. This Policy can be found on the Parish Council's website.

CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy) payments – The Council has received £4020.90 From Stroud District Council. The Parish Council has 5 years to spend this money. The spending of this money is closely regulated. The Parish Council will discuss how this money could be used at their meeting on 7th February.

Bus shelters – The Parish Council have agreed to add £3000 to the precept, for each of the next 2 years, in order to carry out essential refurbishment.

Children's Christmas party –

The Parish Council agreed to donate £1000 towards the cost of the Children's Christmas party to be held this year on 17th December 2-5 pm at the Village Hall.

Internal Audit and budget review – This was carried out at the November meeting. Councillors found that the Council finances were in order and the Council spend is within budget.

Contact: **Tel** 01452 536940 or **email** clerk@brookthorpewithwhaddon-pc.gov.uk