

Dear Residents

Thank you to all who responded to the request for help in deciding on the name of the Hall.

85% of you chose 'Village' as opposed to 'Community'. So be it.

I don't believe it will make any difference to our chances of success in our bids for funding but I shouldn't want this decision to obscure the nature of the proposed changes planned.

When in 2010 the Hall Council was asked to look at accommodating the Post Office and Community Store, it started work to find a way to extend the Village Hall and it became obvious to look at updating and developing the remaining building in order to provide a more flexible and inviting facility. This subsequently led to the granting of planning permission in June 2012. The reasons for making all these changes seemed to be pretty obvious to us all, until it came to us to apply for funding.

The funders asked us a whole new set of questions including;

- Why are you doing it?
- What problem are you trying to solve?
- Where's the evidence?
- Who's going to benefit?
- What difference will it make to people's lives?

Although we felt confident that what we were doing was right, we found it difficult to answer these questions. Hence, we set about obtaining the data and evidence through residents' questionnaires and statistical research to find out;

- What are the needs of the people who live in Barham?
- What are the problems that need to be addressed?
- What part can the Village Hall play in the solution?

And we found that;

- Barham - ranked within the top 10 per cent of the rurally deprived in the country.
- 200 people aged over 65 live alone (16 per cent)
- 234 people whose day to day activities are limited a lot as a result of poor health or disability (19 per cent)

And Barham residents wanted;

- more services for children, young people and older people.
- easier access to basic health services like a Chiropodist
- easier access to adult education sessions and training courses e.g. computer, photography etc
- a community café

So our project became all about improving life for residents in the community rather than just providing an improved facility for hiring out. In the coming weeks and months we shall be working on how to bring about these new services and activities with the involvement and participation of those in our community. It needs to be community led and that means volunteering to help introduce them. I hope when the time comes you will be able to help.

External Funding

We have resubmitted our initial proposal to the Big Lottery Fund and we will have to wait a couple of weeks more before we know whether it has been approved or not.

If successful we can move on immediately to submit our Stage two application, which has already been prepared, and which will take four months for the Lottery to assess. I did say that it was a long process. As a separate initiative, we have also identified a list of small capital projects which will improve the facilities in the existing Village Hall. The first of these is the replacement of our chairs with more comfortable ones, which we know will be welcomed and we are currently seeking separate outside funding for this.

A Boost for the Development Fund

We have, since our last newsletter, received an exceptionally generous donation of £10,000 from a Barham resident to the Village Hall Development Fund. This has significantly strengthened our contribution to meeting the Project's costs and will weigh heavily in our favour in the eyes of potential funders, showing them our commitment to improving our lives in Barham. A very big thank you is owed by all of us to the donor.

Barham Bowls Club Family Fun day

Saturday 22, June 10:00 - 13:00

Come and join in – all you need is a pair of flat sole shoes or trainers.

There will be fun and games for young and old, such as target bowls as well as the more formal side of the game.

To mark the occasion, we have arranged a flypast over the green during the morning by a Battle of Britain Memorial Flight Dakota.

The Village Cinema

Zero Dark 30

Saturday 13, July

For a decade, an elite team of intelligence and military operatives, working in secret across the globe, devoted themselves to a single goal: to find and eliminate Osama bin Laden. Zero Dark Thirty reunites the Oscar winning team of director-producer Kathryn Bigelow and writer-producer Mark Boal (The Hurt Locker) for the story of history's greatest manhunt for the world's most dangerous man. Gripping, suspenseful, and brilliantly crafted, Zero Dark 30 dramatizes the hunt with intelligence and an eye for detail.

Side Effects

Saturday 3, August

SIDE EFFECTS is a provocative thriller about Emily and Martin (Rooney Mara and Channing Tatum), a successful New York couple whose world unravels when a new drug prescribed by Emily's psychiatrist (Jude Law) - intended to treat anxiety - has unexpected side effects. A smart, clever thriller with plenty of disquieting twists, Side Effects is yet another assured effort from director Steven Soderbergh.

Tickets available from the shop as usual,

Barham Babies & Toddler Group

Barham Village Hall Monday and Wednesday Morning, 9:00 to 11:30.

We are a friendly group, bringing the community together, as we have parents, carers and grandparents.

There's a great atmosphere with activities including arts and crafts, role play, song time, we have an outdoor play area (weather permitting) and a wide range of toys.

From time to time we also invite other companies in to do things such as a dance class.

Expressions also come in to do Mother's Day/ Father's Day, Easter & Christmas activities.

The children enjoy making friends, which helps prepare them for Pre-School.

All are welcome - we hope to see you soon!