

## PARISH HALL UPDATE

The Parish Hall Committee, despite a lack of income due to the Covid situation, have been able to improve facilities during lockdown thanks to the efforts of our treasurer in securing several grants.

A grant from Westbury Area Board enabled us to replace the porch lighting with LED movement activated lights which will make it so much safer for people using the hall after dark.



More exciting improvements though have been made thanks to the Local Connections Fund Grant which helps charities and community groups reduce loneliness and build connections across their communities. The fund is made up of money from the

Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport

National Lottery Community Fund and the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport. Thanks to this grant, we have been able to bring the Parish Hall into the digital age and by so doing, offer greater opportunities to those groups who use the hall and together with the possibility of attracting a more diverse number of users, may help to improve digital connections within the community.

Those who use the Parish Hall can now benefit from the Multimedia system

- a Broadband internet connection – available free, on request, to those who hire the hall.
- an audio induction loop system that will enhance the experience and enjoyment of more people during talks and presentations
- a drop down electric screen with speakers that can be used in conjunction with the projector that the Parish



Council bought a few years ago and is on permanent loan to the Parish Hall. – no more broken finger nails wrestling with the old screen! The large screen will enable everyone to see a presentation clearly and the WiFI makes it possible for people to participate in meetings from the comfort of their own home via platforms such as Zoom.

A big thank you also goes to John Pollard who not only researched the equipment needed, but also installed it and set up the internet router and access point, so saving the Parish Hall Committee hundreds of pounds on installation costs- not that he had his arm twisted!!

## Wendy Pollard