

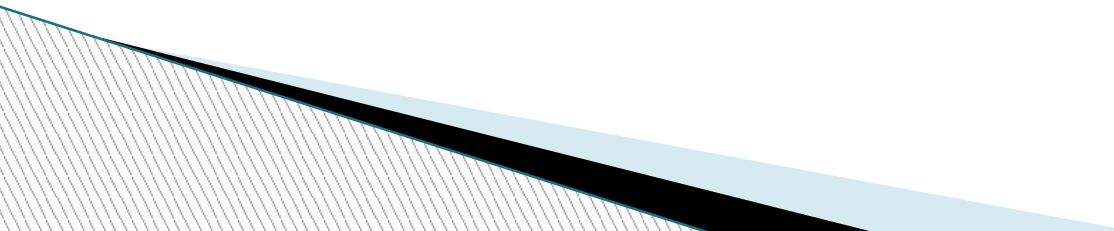
Stadhampton Community Building Project

Creating a village hall inside a Church

Sharing our learning with Culham

June 2012

Summary

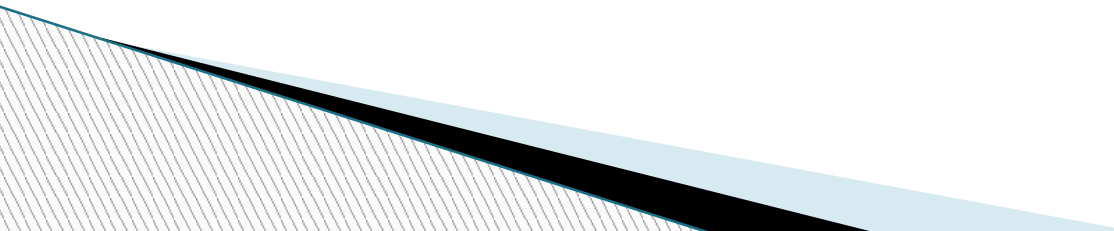
- ▶ Where the idea came from
 - ▶ Community Engagement
 - ▶ Raising the money
 - ▶ Where we are now
 - ▶ Learning
 - ▶ Biggest Hurdles
- 

Background



- ▶ Old hall demolished in 1960's
- ▶ New School with shared hall 1970's
- ▶ Millennium Project
- ▶ June 2008 Parish Council Annual Meeting

To begin with

- ▶ Set up a committee in July 2008
 - ▶ Met with Oxfordshire Rural Community Council (ORCC)
 - ▶ Reviewed previous project's Business Case
 - ▶ Reviewed changes since 2000
 - ▶ Determined current options
- 

Options

1. Do nothing
2. New Build – where/cost?
3. Modify an existing building ?



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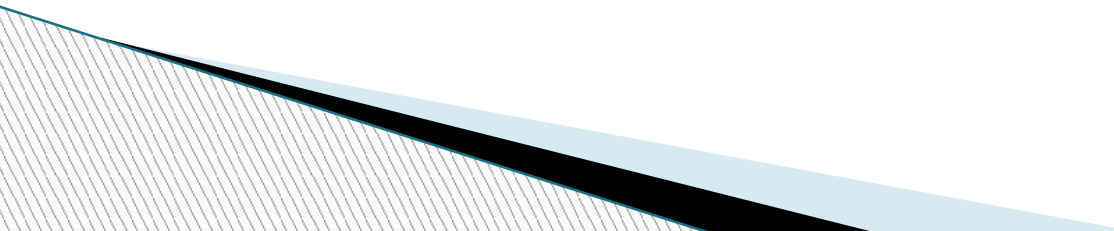


Next steps

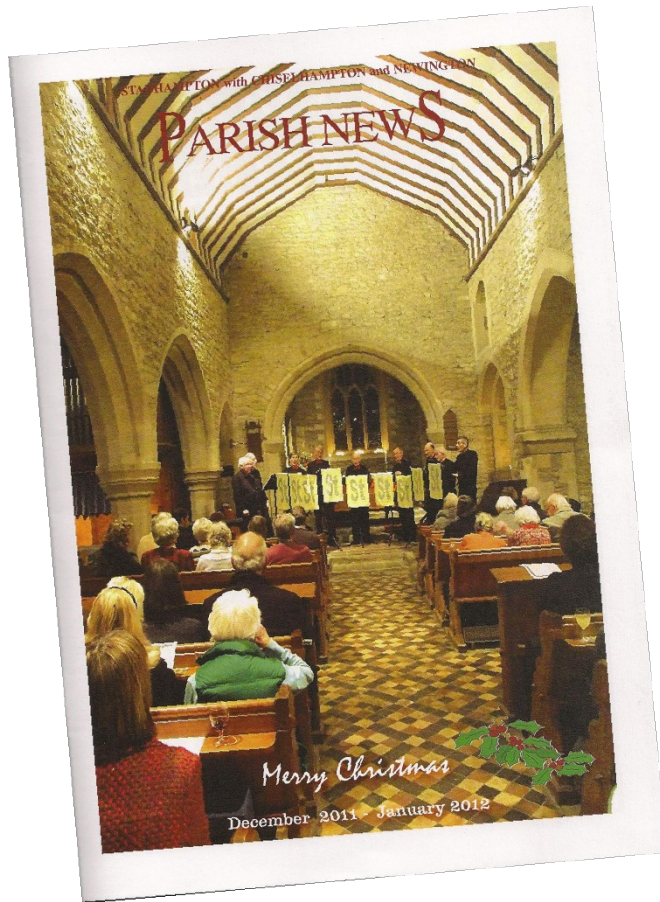
- ▶ Consultation
- ▶ Collate findings
- ▶ Pro-bono sketches
- ▶ Open Meeting
- ▶ Validate decision



Decision

- ▶ No appetite for new build
 - ▶ Look at improving the school
 - ▶ Look at using an existing building
i.e. modifying the Church
- 

Actions - 1



- ▶ Validated decision in Parish Magazine
- ▶ Revised Joint User Agreement on school hall
- ▶ Improved features in school hall
- ▶ Research
- ▶ Visited other projects

Other Projects Visited

Churches

- ▶ Elsfeld
- ▶ Fernham
- ▶ Deddington
- ▶ Wallingford
- ▶ Watlington
- ▶ Benson
- ▶ Cuddington

Village Halls

- ▶ North Leigh
- ▶ Little Milton
- ▶ Tetsworth
- ▶ Holton
- ▶ Pyrton
- ▶ Yarnton

Elsfield



Fernham (Project Inspire)

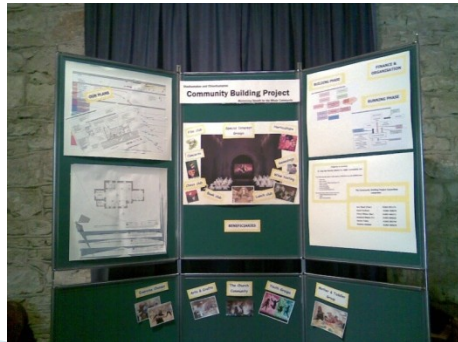
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Actions - 2

- ▶ Liaison with Parish Council
- ▶ Money held in trust from previous project
- ▶ Set up a charity
- ▶ Set up a bank account
- ▶ Appoint Architect to draw up Plans and engage community in revising plans



Actions - 3



- ▶ Have a vision, aims and objectives
- ▶ Start writing Business Plan
- ▶ Oxford Community for Voluntary Action (OVCA)
- ▶ Christian Giving Advisor, Church House
- ▶ Plans for Continuous Community Involvement
- ▶ Apply for Planning Permission
- ▶ Apply for Church Faculty a.s.a.p.

Funding challenges



- ▶ Finding a first funder
- ▶ Major Grant givers want most funding in place
- ▶ Must have tangible support from Parish Council if applying to District/County
- ▶ Read eligibility carefully
- ▶ Timescales
- ▶ Evidence of need
- ▶ Where to go if you have a shortfall

Our Funding Strategy

- ▶ **Combination of local fundraising/applications to Statutory Bodies and to Grant Making organisations**
- ▶ Own fundraising efforts – large events
- ▶ Parochial Church Council
- ▶ Parish Council
- ▶ SODC – Community Investment Fund
- ▶ Oxfordshire County Council Big Society Fund
- ▶ S E Leader Programme
- ▶ WREN
- ▶ Biffa Awards/Lottery



Community Engagement

- ▶ Open Meetings
 - ▶ Parish Magazine regular updates
 - ▶ Village website/*Facebook/Twitter*
 - ▶ Presence at village events
 - ▶ Reports to Parish Council Meetings
 - ▶ Reports to Parochial Church Council Meetings
 - ▶ Questionnaires
 - ▶ Face to face interviews
 - ▶ Feedback mechanisms
- 

Evidence of Need

A Survey

Which

Letters of Support



CHALGROVE AREA
Registered charity No. 1073799

68 High Street
Chalgrove
Oxford
OX44 7SS

16 February 2012

To whom it may concern,

I understand that funding is being sought to provide a community meeting place in the church of St John the Baptist in Stadhampton and, on behalf of Age Concern Chalgrove, I would like to pledge our support for this project.

There is currently nowhere in Stadhampton where people may meet other than on the village green or in a pub and whilst this might suit some it is of little use or interest to the elderly. In Chalgrove we run a Day Centre on a Tuesday and currently transport a number of people from Stadhampton to attend.

Age Concern Chalgrove is partially funded by Oxfordshire County Council and is mandated to take the frail and elderly, the socially isolated and those receiving care, and to provide them with help and support, a fresh cooked hot meal and some entertainment. Our members, including those from Stadhampton, greatly appreciate what we have to offer with the only complaint being that we are not open more often.

A similar operation in Stadhampton would be welcomed by the elderly and indeed the NHS and Oxon County Council, as providing this facility enables and encourages the elderly to remain in their own home and look after themselves.

A Community Meeting Place would provide not just for the elderly but so many others in the village and we fully support the project. We trust that you will be generous in your support.

Yours sincerely

John Molloy
Trustee.

JOHN HOWELL MP



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

3rd February 2012

To whom it may concern

Stadhampton Community Building Project

As a mark of my support and affirmation for this project I recently took part in a fundraising event. I have been impressed by the work that this hard-working committee has been doing to drive forward the project to establish a much needed facility in the village.

Stadhampton does not have a village hall and whilst the community can use the small primary school hall during evenings and school holidays this is quite inadequate for their needs. Meanwhile the church stands empty for much of the week. The Community Building Project is to undertake internal renovations to the church and to build a small extension to provide a toilet block.

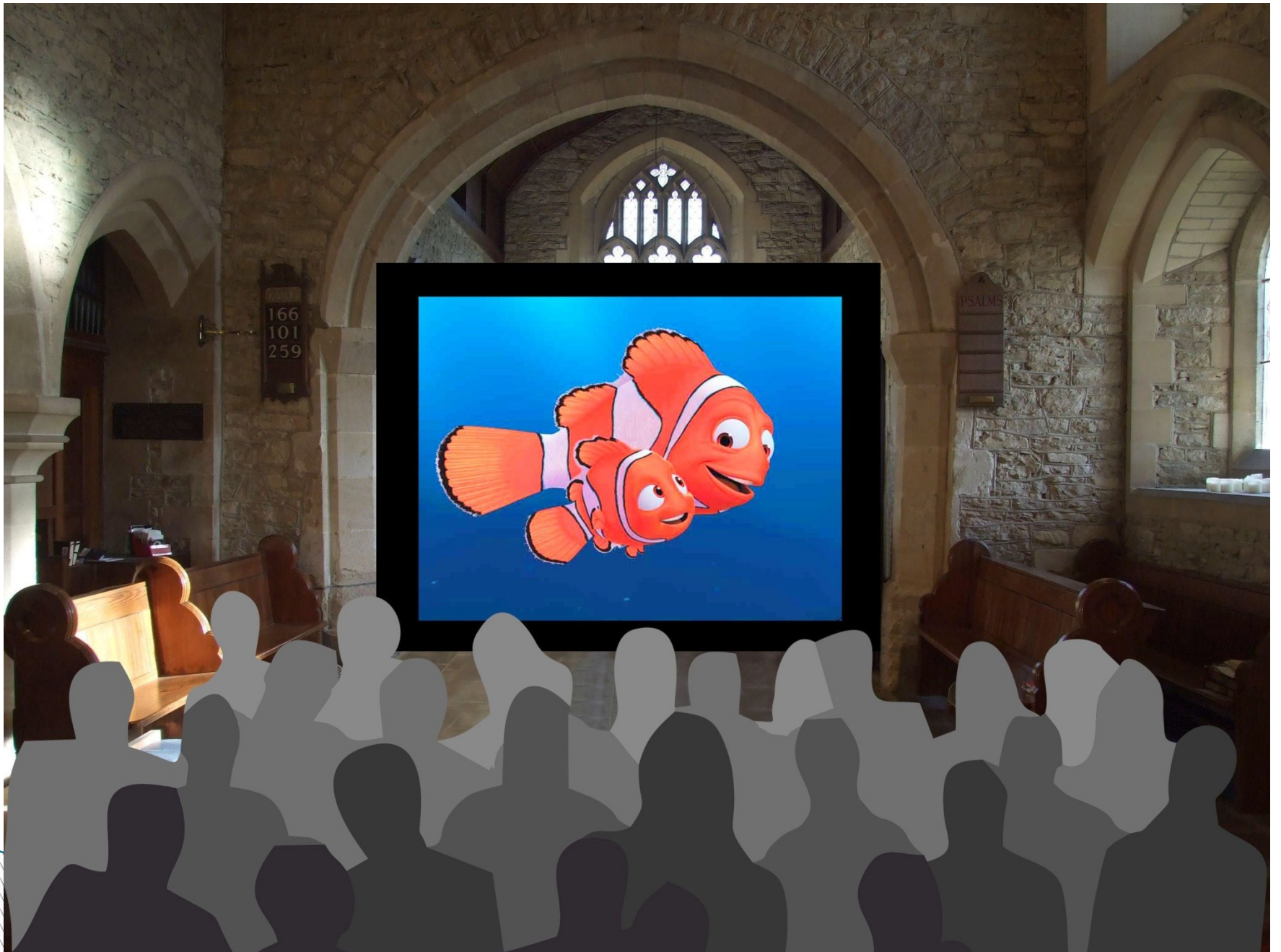
The idea of bringing new life to an existing underused building is not only imaginative but also economical and environmentally friendly. The project has my full support and I understand also has the endorsement of the Diocese of Oxford and the Parish Council.

Details of what is required will no doubt be supplied as part of a grant application so I will not repeat what I have learned about this. I would simply say that I believe their plans to be innovative and pragmatic. I hope you will look favourably on this application and help this community renovate their building.

Yours faithfully

JOHN HOWELL MP
Member of Parliament for Henley
0207 219 6676
howelljm@parliament.uk

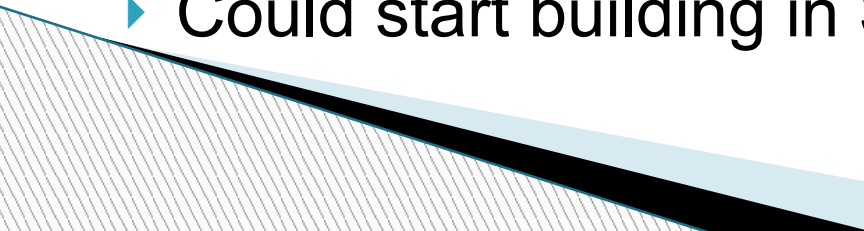




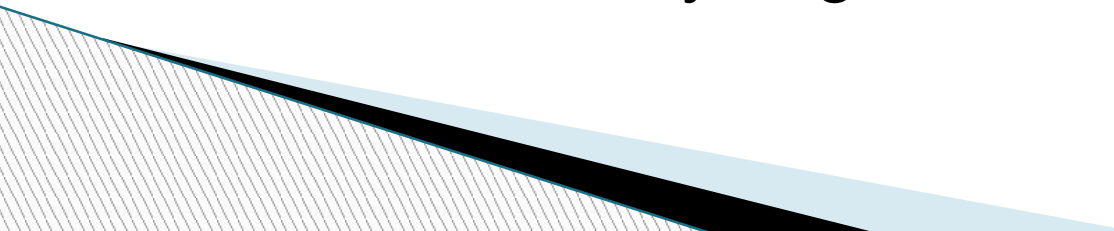
Funding Progress to date

- ▶ Successful bids:
- ▶ Oxford Historic Churches Society - £10,000
- ▶ Allchurches Trust £ 3,000
- ▶ Parish Council £15,000
- ▶ Parochial Church Council £25,000
- ▶ Big Society Fund (OCC) £50,000
- ▶ Leader Programme £40,000
- ▶ WREN £75,000

Where we are now:

- ▶ SODC (CIF) – visit on Tuesday then waiting to hear - £100,000 bid
 - ▶ Then apply to BIFFA Awards, National Lottery and others for shortfall
 - ▶ Fundraising Ball & Auction in September (Target £10,000)
 - ▶ Preparing agreement
 - ▶ Awaiting Faculty
 - ▶ Will award contract when funding in place
 - ▶ Could start building in September 2012!
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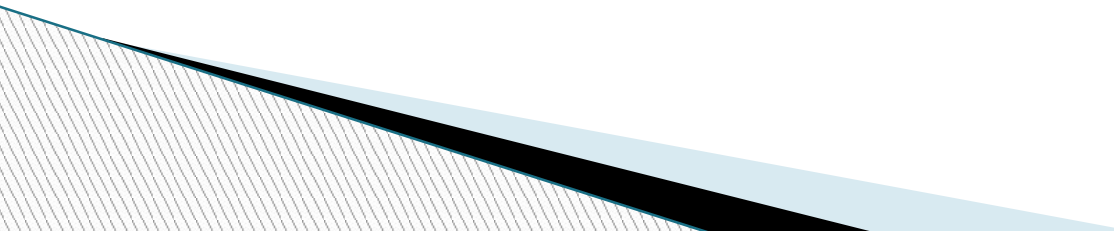
Learning -1

- ▶ Clear plan of action
 - ▶ A good team
 - ▶ Be tenacious
 - ▶ Bring in skills as and when
 - ▶ Don't get downhearted
 - ▶ Be patient
 - ▶ Keep the local community informed and on board
 - ▶ Fund raise big events – don't exhaust your team for small returns
 - ▶ Don't wait until you get 100% support
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Learning -2

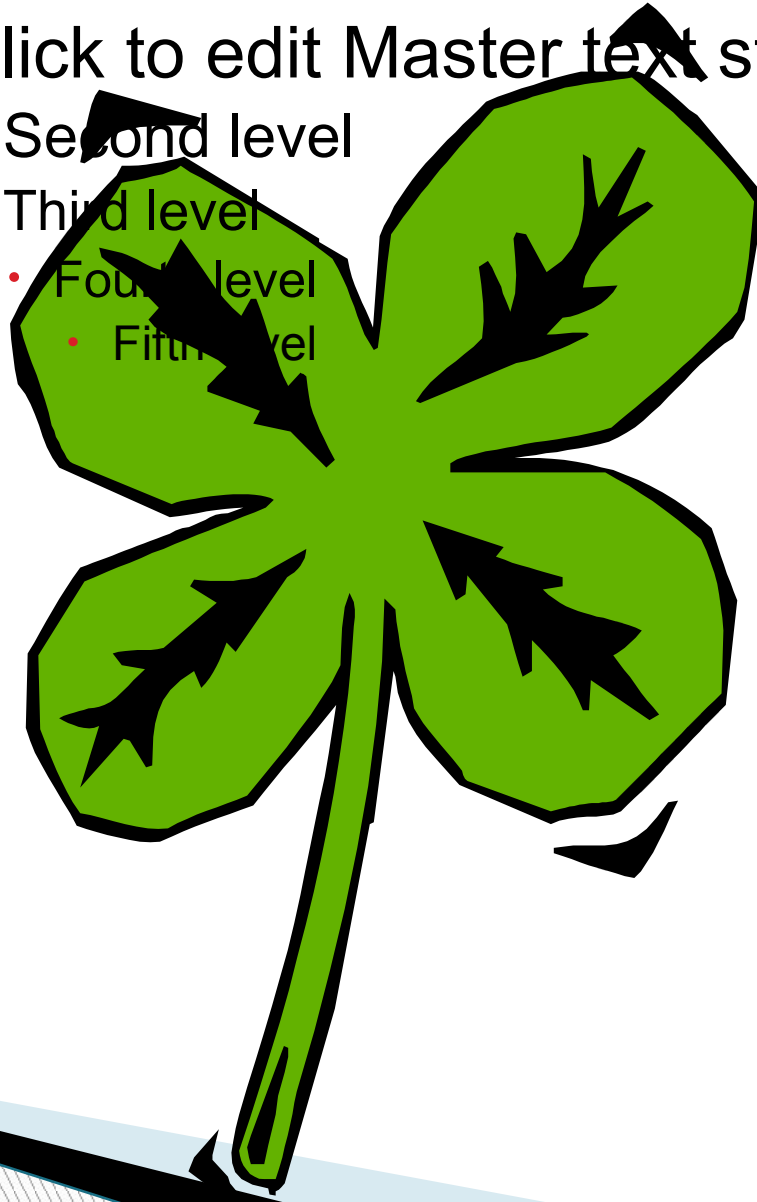
- ▶ Find the evidence, then refine it
- ▶ Take photographs of events, changes in the church for the archives, etc.
- ▶ Use support that exists and attend training events and keep them informed
- ▶ Work closely with Grant Officers
- ▶ Engage Parish Council, SODC and OCC via local Counsellors and MP and keep informed
- ▶ Read application guidelines very carefully
- ▶ Land fill and Recycling/grant making bodies – current financial downturn
- ▶ Engage Church hierarchy

Biggest Hurdles

- ▶ **Church Faculty**
 - ▶ (English Heritage)
 - ▶ (Victorian Society)
 - ▶ (Georgian Society)
 - ▶ **Dissent from a handful of villagers**
 - ▶ **The Budget and VAT**
- 

Good luck!

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Invoke all the help you can!

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