



# MERTON VILLAGE HALL



## Report 2021-2022

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After a considerable number of years, a management committee was formed in 2021. Hosting its first online meeting in September 2021.

Whilst there is not much to see, a considerable amount of work has taken place. In the first meeting it was quickly established that whilst in an ideal world it would be lovely to renovate the hall (as per the fundraising monies from 2017 held by the parish council) it was just not feasible. The main reasons being the costs (which in 2017 was between £54'000-£85'000), other local spaces (mainly St. Peter's Church and Thompson Community Hall), ongoing costs, limited usage and lack of labour. With this in mind the committee looked at the demolition of the old hall, as well as siting a smaller hall (approx. 10m x 5m, accommodating 45 people sitting or 100 people standing). In more recent meetings the option of a seating area has also been discussed.

Research into the demolition and ensuring it was done in a just and correct manner soon returned a vast need for funds. Prices obtained can be seen below: -

Demolition - £1000 - £7500

Skips – dependent on demolition contractor

Ecologist - £1500 - £3600

Asbestos survey – TBC

Water reconnection £450 - £1000

In regard to smaller halls prices were around £20'000 - £25'000 for something half the size of originally intended (10m x 5m, see above).

Fencing to the North and East boundary were also deemed important by the committee and prices obtained varied, going up to almost £2000. It had been hoped to confirm value quotes in March 2022 in order to apply for funding. However this is still ongoing.

Going forward it is hoped to gain further prices and options in order to consult the parish as per section 18 of the charity's governance document. Allowing inhabitants to formally agree on the future of the hall.