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The doors are open!

Building

Apart from a few minor snagging issues, the ground floor of the new annex is now complete. In addition to the cafe area we now have the annex entrance foyer with its level access to both parts of the building, a hall, a kitchen suitable for catering for large events and a couple of medium sized community rooms.

There are 2 more small building tasks which will be completed in the next month or so. The first is the removal of the temporary ramp, the final pointing of the front wall behind the ramp and extension of the metal handrails. The second is the provision of additional fire detection equipment in the unfinished upstairs areas. Unfortunately, after these tasks, work on the upstairs will not recommence until we have enough funds to complete a significant amount of work. During this lull we will take the opportunity to review the specification of the phase 3 works and try to find further ways to reduce the amount of money we need to raise.

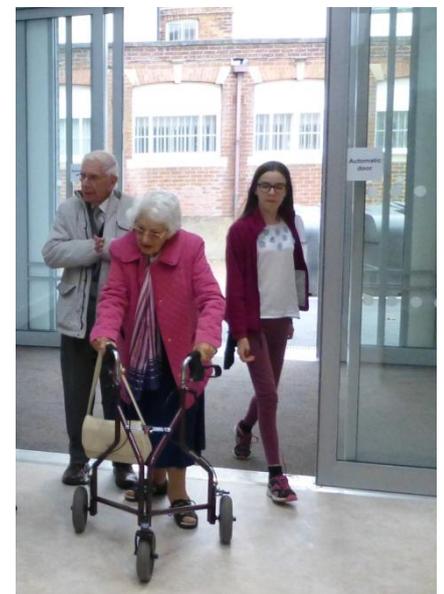


People

Amazing, so exciting to be here, lovely atmosphere...

these are the expressions of people as they are beginning to step through the automatic doors. Its easy access to all the ground floor makes it ideal for meeting up, deciding where to go next. Dorset Community Foundation are very happy to be moving into one of the Community Rooms in November. The hall is being hired out though our bookings manager. COAST will be running a project from the new kitchen, learning to bake and providing cakes for the cafe at the same time. November 16th at 6-7.30pm in the Spire will be the Celebration of the 'Arts and Spirituality in Poole' project as the work produced by Jason Miller is hung in the café and Foyer.

An especially momentous day was on the morning of October 11th when Poole Methodists had their first service of worship in the hall at the Spire. It was terrific! What a long way we have come as a group. We are very grateful for all support along the way, and in the future. Together as friends and partners this building can become central to the community of Poole.



Money

We have now completed Phase 2, and this inevitably means that we have now used all the funds available to the project! Our remaining bank balance is earmarked to pay the retention monies held back under our contract with Greendale Construction. However our grant application to the Methodist Connexion is almost complete, and we pray for a successful bid for more funds. As stated in our previous bulletins other grant applications are progressing. The nature of these applications are such that the process takes time. We are also receiving donations from customers of Wesley's, for which we are always grateful. These and all avenues of fundraising are needed to complete our amazing project.

The need to open up more space upstairs is obvious so if any of our partners are able to help through relevant grant applications or fundraising gestures we would be delighted.

Contact Details:

Money -	Chris Vernon	01202 680322	harbourreach@hotmail.co.uk
Buildings -	Pete Smith	01202 730673	hilspete@phonecoop.coop
People -	Tricia Creamer	01202 603373	westerndolly54@yahoo.co.uk