

ProHelp News July 2005

The latest case studies for High Peak and Derbyshire Dales Rural ProHelp show the huge amount of work and the wide range of topics that have been achieved over this quarter. Professional members have helped fifteen community groups to the value of £10,000 of 'in kind' work and we have had some very positive feedback from groups .



Wormhill Village Hall

Plans have now been completed for a new extension for **Flagg Village Hall** who are delighted with the work of ProHelp member **Paul Dinsdale of PDA Architects, Buxton.**

They are now seeking funding for the project. They are also receiving legal advice from Richard Kay of Goodwin, Cockerton and Colhoun Solicitors, Buxton, regarding a deed of gift and a boundary wall question.

architects plans, a solicitor and possible a surveyor when they find their premises. For some groups this type of ProHelp assistance is very important.

Wormhill Village Hall are in the process of installing a disabled toilet and ceiling insulation and are seeking additional funding to install double glazed windows. They have received advice on the layout for the toilet and ramp from **Buxton Access group**, who help ProHelp on a voluntary basis from time to time. This advice is invaluable as toilet space and siting of equipment has now been assessed by a disabled person.



Whaley Bridge Uniting Church Community Hall

Peak Forest Playgroup is seeking to gain charitable status and is currently receiving help from member **Roger Horne at Brooke -Taylors Solicitors in Buxton.**

Footsteps at Whaley Bridge have received further help from members **John McCall of John McCall Architects** and **Richard Rhodes, Surveyors of Marple.** The project has now been completed and they are awaiting the final funding stages to be completed so that work can go ahead.



Chelmorton Village Hall

Encore Re-use (a new Derbyshire Dales Furniture project) is currently seeking suitable premises. They have requested professional help from a number of ProHelp members including advice on their financial plan, given by **Paul Beeson of Shorts Accountants, Chesterfield.** They have received legal advice from **Philip Bramhall of Franklins Solicitors at Bakewell**, and **Nick Hansen of Bagshaws in Ashbourne** has provided them with a valuation on a property they were tendering for. They may need

John McCall is also working in partnership with **Greg Pike of Allison Pike Architects from Disley** on an exciting modern extension for **Whaley Bridge Uniting Church Community Hall.** This will be a huge project and we are delighted that two

such enthusiastic members are pleased to be working together to bring their combined skills to this project.

Professional member **Glenn Leathley of Chronicle Business Solutions, Whaley Bridge** has been working very hard recently for ProHelp. He has recently run a well-attended course on Understanding Financial accounts in the High Peak, has been advising High Peak CVS on financial matters, is running a requested follow-up course in September and another course covering the Derbyshire Dales area also in September.

Glossop Women's Aid were concerned that their image was

looking very dated and are fortunate to have member **Richard Cassy of Cassy Marketing, Chesterfield** working with them to create an exciting and new design concept.

One of our newest professional members **Steve Elliott, Health and Safety Consultant from Bonsall** is running a Health and Safety course in Bakewell planned for November.

Two on-going projects being worked on by member **Paul Hollyer of Elliot Mather, Solicitors, Chesterfield** are for **Hollingwood After School Club** which is working towards incorporating and registering as a charity and with **Heath Village**

Community Association who wish to register as a charity.

And last but not least ProHelp member **Adrian Russell, Architect from Bakewell** has started working this week on a project for **Chelmorton Village Hall**. They wish convert the present toilets to include a disabled toilet with improved disabled access.

Projects in the embryonic stage include **Bonsall Frame Knitters Workshops, The St. James the Less Preservation Trust, the Federation of Mental Health Groups, Wirksworth NOW project and Wirksworth Heritage Centre**.

What is ProHelp?

ProHelp is a national network of over 1,000 professional firms committed to providing free professional advice and support to community groups.

High Peak & Derbyshire Dales ProHelp is an initiative of High Peak CVS, Derbyshire Dales CVS and Business in the Community

Will my group be eligible?

You need to be a community based, not-for-profit group working for the social and economic regeneration of the High Peak and Derbyshire Dales.

You should be able to prove that you do not have funds available for professional fees and your governing body must approve your application to ProHelp.

What free help is available?

The services and full support of the ProHelp co-ordinator to

broker between your project and the professional firm.

Free professional services to help with:

- Feasibility studies
- Structural surveys
- Legal advice or registering as a charity, setting up as a company limited by guarantee, constitutions, leases and contract problems
- Accountancy advice on tax and VAT issues, financial planning
- Advice with marketing strategy
- Web design
- Property valuations
- Health and safety
- Business planning

Are there any restrictions?

ProHelp is not able to offer and assistance with:

- Litigation work
- Auditing or treasurers
- Requests from religious groups, unless the project benefits the wider community

- Requests from animal groups or those with overseas aid as their primary focus.

If you have any comments or feedback about the case studies or future layouts or news please feel free to contact me on 01663 735350 or email chris@highpeakcvs.org.uk.

Chris



Derby and Derbyshire Economic Partnership Rural Action Zone funds this project