

Village filled with a festival spirit at hall celebration

GLASTONBURY guru Michael Eavis helped Galhampton village say a huge 'thank-you' to all the grantors, sponsors, design and build partners and volunteers, who have achieved the rebuild of the village hall.

It is on the site of the old hall but now provides a meeting room and office/consulting room, in addition to the main hall. Already it is being used by groups as diverse as kunda dance, GP surgery, mini music makers, social bridge, choir and luncheon club as well as being available for private hire and village events. Michael Eavis was suitably impressed with the magnificent space of the main hall, suggesting it could be a great spot for band practice!

This design inspired the village in an early consultation meeting and Giles Vallis and NVB (Frome) were appointed as architects. They worked with the village to appoint contractor, C G Fry and together this team managed the build itself. Not a single stone would have been laid if not for the fundraising over several years and the village was pleased to welcome Sarah Dummer-Wade and Mary Norris as representatives of National Lottery and Viridor Credits respectively. These organisations provided the majority of the grants and further amounts were provided by Garfield Weston, South Somerset District Council and North Cadbury Parish Council; but all of these built on the funding cornerstone of the £90,000 raised by the village itself - much of it through the annual music festival 'Party in the Park'. Committee member, Pete Marsden acknowledged this event had never seriously rivalled Michael Eavis' legendary global event but, like Glastonbury, it relied on the generosity of local volunteers with time, expertise and sponsorship.



Guests and villagers say thank you in the main hall, below, the thank you cake is cut by Mr Eavis with the help of village hall committee member Pete Marsden and Sarah Dummer-Wade from The National Lottery PICTURES BY Len Copland

