

## **Sherston Old School: SOSCIC Report for Parish Council and Malmesbury Area Board, 2 June 2011**

Several local building firms have been contacted and four have been chosen to submit tenders to carry out the necessary work on the building.

The SOSCIC board hopes to be in a position to select one of these firms in late June or early July, and work should start soon after that. There may well be scope for specialist local tradespeople to be involved as sub-contractors.

There have already been some expressions of interest from potential tenants. Lettings will be handled by Graham Singer, and he will enter into negotiations as soon as the building has been made presentable.

Having secured £700,000 for the first phase of building work, SOSCIC is now embarking on a campaign to raise a further substantial sum to cover the second phase. It is impossible to put a precise figure on this until the builders' investigations reveal just how much work needs to be done. An application for £50,000 has been made to the Prince's Countryside Fund and various other potential sources of funding are being explored, including Community First and Heritage Lottery.

SOSCIC members number 227 at the date of this report, a good indication of the level of support in the community. More members would still be welcome, and application forms are available in the Sherston Post Office.

A members' meeting has arranged to take place on Monday 20 June. The main purpose of the meeting will be to bring members up to date on progress, but the board hopes also to find volunteers to help things along. In particular, there is an urgent need for a fundraising team and for someone to take charge of it.

Geoff Martin  
SOSCIC Company Secretary