



Godolphin Cross Chapel

Creating an accessible and inclusive community hub

Raised £6,706 from 40 supporters

+£3,000 +Extra funding from Community Business Crowdmatch

+£537 +Extra funding from Cornwall Council: Community Chest Fund

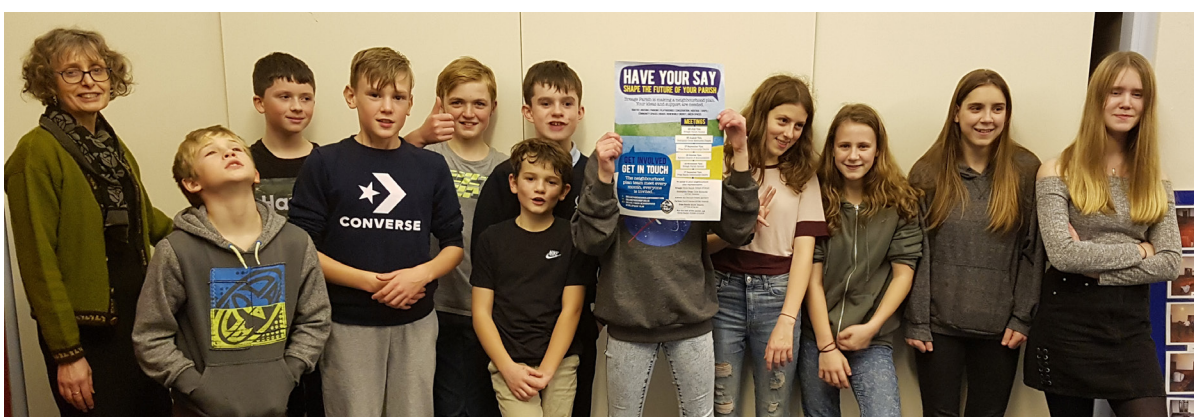
When a series of vital services were cut, a group in Godolphin Cross came together to save their village and relieve the rural isolation and loneliness that its residents were facing.

Situated in West Cornwall, Godolphin Cross is a small village with a supportive and tight knit community. Though, over the years, almost all of its commercial and recreational outlets and facilities had been put out of service, meaning that locals were left feeling cut off and isolated. In their words, their village was dying.

With an aim to revive their beloved village, the [Godolphin Cross Community Association](#) (GCCA) bought the local chapel with the intention of transforming it into a community hub. This hub would offer regular events, projects and group meetings, helping to engage the community and reduce rural isolation and loneliness. The GCCA also hoped to create jobs and preserve some of the village's locally valued heritage.

Though, to create the village hub that they dreamed of, the GCCA needed to make the building accessible, so locals old and young could use its facilities.

[Cue the Godolphin Cross Chapel - Access for All crowdfunder!](#)



When asked about what inspired them to use crowdfunding to raise the funds needed to refurbish the chapel, GCCA's Chairman, Richard McKie, explained, *"We had been thinking about it for 2 years, but only when the problem arose – in summer 2019 – did it become a reality, partly spurred on by the additional funding available from Power to Change – which is a programme that's been really helpful to us in the past. Crowdfunding seemed the perfect way to link our supporters and users with our future aspirations and hopes as a community, and offered not just fundraising, but profile raising too. A win – win."*

Within 42 days, [40 members of their crowd had raised £6,706](#). The GCCA were also eligible to receive grants from two of our funding partners. £537 came from [Cornwall Council's Community Chest Fund](#) which supports organisations that enrich and engage local communities and another grant of £3,000 came from [Power to Change's Community Business Crowdmatch](#) which aims to help start or grow community businesses.

Richard told us, *"The extra- funding from the Community Business Crowdmatch was a deal clincher for us, as it brought the target sum into range, and gave us a realistic hope of success. It also provided a higher bar to reach for, and we can now go ahead with our building refurb which would otherwise have fallen by the wayside."*

He went on to say, *"We have been able to give the go ahead for building work which will provide toilets for anyone with disabilities or mobility issues, plus baby changing equipment and a whole new look to our community space – which is the last space open for community use in our village of 700 people. Crowdfunding meant we were able to respond to a problem that threatened our work as a community association. We can now go forward with fresh hope."*

Before Richard left, we asked him what advice he'd give to project owners of the future and he said, *"Get some video sorted out – people really liked that, and we hope to use it again for promotion."*

Find out if you [could be eligible to unlock extra funding](#) for your business or great idea. What are you waiting for? [Start crowdfunding today!](#)