

VILLAGE HALL REPORT APRIL 2022

As with everyone else, the Village Hall has been very badly affected by the pandemic, but at last things are beginning to return to normal with village clubs and organisations starting to use the hall again. Many thanks to them for their support.

At our recent AGM our Treasurer reported on our losses during the pandemic, the first losses the hall has made in his long tenure as Treasurer. During year ending December 2020 rental income was only £422 and even worse year ending December 2021 with a rental income of only £190. However, all is not lost as we received generous grants from B.C.C. of £10,000 which means finances are secure at present.

As we keep our rental charge at a very modest level to encourage village organisations to use us (only £15 per session) we always try and hold at least one fund raising event each year. Literally the Saturday before the first lockdown we had a very enjoyable quiz night and during the autumn last year we held another. We hope to do so again next October, so do come along if you can.

Since the last village meeting held in 2019 there have been a number of improvements to the hall. Our new chairs were delivered in May of that year, we have sanded and repolished the floor, we have had new radiators fitted to the walls, at the insistence of our insurance company, and we have also had new lights fitted which give a much more sympathetic light compared to the old strip lights we had before. Outside we have made repairs to the storage shed and put a rainwater drain in the carpark to prevent the neighbouring properties flooding. Our next project is to try to get an internet connection from the church into the hall. This is work in progress but we are very hopeful this can be achieved. If it can, we will share the monthly rental charges with the church so everyone is a winner.

On behalf of all the hall trustees, may I thank everyone who uses our lovely little hall and helps keep this valuable village facility thriving.

Richard Bates
Secretary
Ashendon Village Hall