

Genuine thanks go to all committee members providing their time and efforts on the VH committee and in supporting the various activities which require committee members time and effort.

Thanks to all

The village hall has continued to operate in a steady state, whilst no 'game changer' regular bookings have been secured the regular user groups and adhoc bookings have maintained a satisfactory regular income level.

This coupled with a good control of costs has resulted in an acceptable annual surplus which continues to add to our reserves.

The current hire charges appear to remain acceptable given local alternatives and continue to be seen as very competitive given local competition.

The sizeable VH reserves provide a security against any sudden or severe downturn in revenues and also enables the committee to continue to fulfil its objectives of 'maintaining and improving the VH for future generations'

Fund raising events whilst limited, continue to assist raising funds and the bi- annual quiz evening remains a well attended and popular favourite.

A program of Maintenance and improvement works has continued with works undertaken including -

- The main windows to the hall have been replaced with modern UPVC replacements which are both improving energy efficiency and also visually in keeping with the character of the hall. This has averted the need to periodically replace or maintain the majority of the old wooden window frames in the future.
- new paper towel dispensers have been installed in the toilets to ensure a supply of cost effective paper towels can be maintained
- following leaks in the porch ceiling repairs to the roof have been completed. The lead gully's by the dormer window in the lobby has been blocked and the cement gully perished. Both lead gully's have been cleared and a new cement drainage channel installed and some broken tiles replaced, it is hoped this will have resolved the issue. Given the large amount of moss that accumulates on the roof over time it is anticipated we may need to arrange a bi annual or periodic clean of the roof area to prevent further blockages.
- At the time of the AGM a major re paint of the wooden panels (dark stain areas) in the main hall is to be undertaken which will brighten and modernise the interior of the main hall.
- At the time of the meeting works have been ordered to carry out the replacement of the VH WC taps following repeated incidents of hot taps being left on resulting in hours or days of hot water running freely. The new 'push automatic taps' should prevent such wasteful and expensive incidents continuing.
- Initial quotes to tidy and improve the outside patio area have proven to be very costly. Further quotes are being sought for a more limited improvement which may prove to be more affordable.

The perennial challenge for the VH remains the need to draw new (and younger) volunteers to the committee which will prove important over time and vital in ensuring successors are identified to the key volunteer roles that so actively ensure the safe operation of the hall can continue for the benefit of the village and users.

MF - Chairman - EHVH

May 2024