

## **Harrington Village Hall Committee**

The Annual General Meeting was held on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> September in the Village Hall at 7.00pm

Present: Barbara Wallis, Dave Thorley, Alan Rowlett, Val Willis, Beth Cullwick, Tony and Chris Heggs, Helen Worsley, Ian and Anne Hanson, Betty West

Apologies; Sally Brookshaw

Barbara welcomed everyone.

Minutes of previous meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> August 2020 had been circulated. No points arose.

Chairman, Barbara Wallis read the **Annual Report**

The operations of the hall during the year 2020/21 were further affected by the worldwide Covid 19 pandemic. There was no public access to the hall from the first Lockdown in March 2019 until the local elections on 6<sup>th</sup> May 2021. Committee meetings were by zoom with some being more successful than others.

### **Building maintenance and projects**

During the lockdown period the fabric of the building was protected by draining the water system and turning the heating on to air the building at regular intervals. Further insulation has been added to the roof space and the shed has been re-felted and painted. A fence has been erected and the paving reinstated by the shed to make the area safer. A key safe has been installed to improve access.

Going forward: a community noticeboard has been ordered for delivery in Jan/Feb. The annual snowdrop planting will proceed as last year. Regular inspections of the building fabric will be carried out to ensure the continued good condition of the hall.

The Covid crisis has been addressed by increasing the cleaning regime, having sanitising hand gel available, encouraging social distancing and extra ventilation. During coffee mornings masks were to be worn by the server and table service provided.

### **Events Diary**

The Friday morning coffee mornings were reinstated on 21<sup>st</sup> May, with government guidelines being respected. Between 6 and 14 residents and visitors generally attend.

Other village groups using the hall are the History Group, who meet every other Wednesday afternoon. A Biodiversity group who are exploring the local flora and fauna. The Parish Council and the Neighbourhood plan committee.

The hall has been hired for company meetings, dog training classes, a child's party, a wake and the local elections. It is good to see the community resource being used by the community again.

An upcoming event is the village Hog Roast. The committee has yet to decide when to reinstate other usual annual events.

### **Finances**

A Local Restrictions Grant was awarded to the hall by Northampton Borough Council in April for £9669.21, to offset the inability to let out the hall.

### **Overview**

During the year Val Willis and June Bland stepped down from the committee and we would like to extend our thanks for all their hard work and commitment over the many years when they have been such a valuable asset to us all. Val and June however are still regulars at the coffee morning as both host and guest.

The committee would like to thank those in the community who help us, Paul Willis for maintaining the grass and hedges, Mark Jackson-Stops for spraying off the weeds and the continued advice from Alan Rowlett.

The continued support of "Friends of the Hall" and revenue from hire all contribute to the financial viability. Old buildings need constant maintenance and this income helps ensure the future of the Hall.

The Covid pandemic has had an effect on all our lives but it is good to see the Village Hall returning to being used as it should be again.

### **Election of new committee**

Chairman	Barbara Wallis
Treasurer	Dave Thorley
Parish Council Representative	Dave Thorley
Secretary	Helen Worsley
Bookings Secretary	Barbara Wallis
Friends Administrator	In abeyance
Parish Church Representative	Sally Brookshaw
	Ian Hanson
	Tony Heggs
	Betty West

### Treasurer's Report

Dave Thorley stated we were in a healthy state.

A Local Restrictions Grant had been received in April for £9669.21 increasing the current account to a total of £ 15,641.00

Note annual outgoings are	Water	£	194.00
	Electricity	£	555.00
	Insurance	£	555.00
	Total	£	1304.00

### Fabric Report

Area requiring attention is the rear right hand corner of the building which needs a French drain. Dave will attend to this.

Damp in the kitchen below the serving hatch is mainly due to poor ventilation. However a professional inspection of the flat roof above the kitchen suggests that a hot roof may be needed in a few years (3)

Coffee morning sign too heavy and requires replacing.

No further business

The AGM minutes will be placed on the website.