

Chair's Report. Village Hall AGM 13th June 2014

This last year has been a busy year once again with the most important items being the upgrading of the committee room to a high standard compatible with the rest of the hall, the installation of a new bunded oil tank to comply with Health and Safety and our Insurance cover and the installation of a Defibrillator, hosted at the request of the village.

Thanks to Sue Sulkin's efforts the hall continues to be extremely well used by the community with regular groups involving a wide range of age-groups, individual hirings and ad hoc private events. We have continued to keep our hiring fees modest and although our turnover is marginally down, this has been countered by much appreciated donations from the United Charities of £1000 and the Village Fete of £500 which have helped defray the cost of the new oil tank and the Committee Room Renovations.

The Committee Room, which was letting the tone of the Hall down, was refurbished in December and January to a light, clean and airy room and is proving a valuable addition to the hall and in its own right has added one new regular local hiring. The refurbishment work was planned and carried out entirely by Jan and Trevor Marpole to a very tight budget and the Committee is immensely grateful for their commitment to this.

During the process of refurbishing the Committee Room the boundary hedge was laid to provide more light. Members of the committee then cleared the scrub and trees away from the rear of the hall. This has revealed the extent of the water ingress from the ditch on our south boundary and we need to consider how to address this in order to protect the rear of the hall from damp.

Elsewhere the Hall is once again in need of its regular clean through and we need to plan for a redecoration weekend having given it a miss last year. The floor has remained in good condition although we may need to budget for resealing next year. The Blinds were serviced in May 2013 and are currently working well.

In order to comply with Health and Safety and our Corporate Liability, the Committee has now published our H & S Policy and Conditions of Hire on the Village Website with copies displayed on the notice board inside the main hall. This makes understanding the conditions of Hire easier for non regular users and clearly defines the Committee's liability. Alongside this we have placed notices of the location of Emergency Equipment in the main Hall and Kitchen and acquired a mobile phone for emergency use stored in the understage cupboard in the Committee Room. This phone is checked regularly. A designated disabled parking slot has been allocated to the left of the main entrance marked by a Sign attached to the wall.

On the drama and music side, the hall has hosted a really good selection of Artsreach events thanks to the efforts of Fran Parker and Ian Scott.

Our thanks as always go to Trevor and Jan for their rapid response on a whole variety of maintenance issues that are constantly being thrown up. Their freely given time and skills mean that we can keep hall hire rates down and remain solvent.

SignedChair

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