

Elford Village Hall Annual Report May 2019

Opening remarks

The year 2018/19 has been reasonable for the Village Hall with a good level of usage. However maintenance work and expenditure continues to increase but nevertheless it still remains the policy of the committee to cover day-to-day costs through the hirer income whilst funding repairs and upgrades through fundraising events.

Administration

Again the committee has had regular meetings principally on a monthly basis and the minutes of all these meetings are available upon request.

At each meeting the progress and control of the "scarecrow Committee" is considered in line with the governance document for the scarecrow festival.

Maintenance repairs and upgrading.

The re-gravelling the car park was undertaken recently with monies ring fenced from previous years. During the year there has been a host of repair and maintenance works undertaken. No major upgrading was planned due to the scarecrow festival sabbatical.

Nevertheless a number of projects are being considered to include the possibility of partial air-conditioning and new lighting following requests from parishioners.

Events

A well attended event with "Dandy" was held early in the year.

A fund raising event is planned for July this year to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the celebration of the return of many of the First World War soldiers back to Elford. This will partially try to re-enact that day with the march to the church from the "Institute", church service followed by a two course Sunday lunch in the Village Hall.

The scarecrow festival will return this year as usual under the auspices of the church and the Village Hall.

Usage

The use of the hall continues to increase and we welcome yet again a number of new Hirers this year.

The website has brought a few outside commercial usage including the environmental agency, Caldwell children's charity and a dance group which will help to subsidise hiring costs for parishioners.

Marketing

Having reintroduced the village hall newsletter last year the annual edition was distributed in February 2019 with a reflection on the last 12 months and look forward to the next year.

With new recruits to the committee we are now hoping to improve day-to-day communication through Facebook.

Financial

The annual accounts for the financial year ending April 2019 are presently being prepared and will then be audited and submitted to the Parish Council and the charities commission.

As stated previously it is a continued policy to ensure the day-to-day costs are paid by income whilst improvements maintenance and additional purchases are paid for by separate fundraising.

There have been no new projects this year due to the anticipated lack of funds from the scarecrow festival and a reduction of fundraising the previous year. However as a consequence funds have dropped slightly.

Adrian Viles the treasurer has any information anybody may require.

Committee

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all the committee members for their hard work over the past year. Not only for the meetings on a monthly basis but the vast amount of work involved in maintenance, accounts, health and safety, accessing the hall and policing events.

Adrian Viles continues as an excellent treasurer producing comprehensive profit and loss accounts together with cash flows on a monthly basis, superb end of year accounts and an amazingly accurate forecast for each year. (To such an extent that I've now asked him to choose my lottery tickets) In addition he is responsible for updating a comprehensive health and safety policy and to administrating the business plan

Sue Watkins carries out several roles including the arduous task as booking secretary, chief salesperson, events coordinator and a job that seems to have developed into a part-time caretaker.

Andria Martin and Nikki Evans continue to be a great support and invaluable members of the committee.

This year we saw Mike and Joy Collins step down from the committee as they left the village but Mike has been replaced as Parish Council representative by Phil Turley and we have recently welcomed Richard Embury onto the committee.

Thank you

I would like again to take this opportunity in this report to thank the many people who have supported me as chairman of this committee over the past year. All members of the committee for their continued hard work and commitment and their respective wives and husbands for their part in helping us to run the events. Allied members such as Philip Jeynes on the website and Roger Kent on the fire alarm. Also to the parishioners who have supported us through the year.

Gregory J Watkins

Chairman: Elford Village Hall management committee (2001–2019)