

VILLAGE HALL REPORT FOR THE PARISH COUNCIL 2018

On behalf of the Trustees I am pleased to report our results for the last financial year were healthy and just above budget and we continue to ensure that we keep a provision for emergencies and maintenance.

The prime responsibility of the VH Ttees is to look after our precious and popular asset.

Inevitably there is a cycle of repairs and maintenance, a bit like the Forth road bridge, and we ensure that we cover this and endeavour to keep a reserve to cater for unexpected contingencies.

The important contribution from the annual Village Fete is vital to our finances and additionally we applied for and were given a Grant by the PC to help with one of our large overheads which is also a great help.

Without these contributions we would need to significantly increase hiring costs to users.

Not wishing to rely solely on this help the Trustees have expanded their role to become entertainment impresarios and in the past 12 months we have organised 2 big screen cinema events and a theatre evening by one of the theatre groups from Live and Local.

Although in themselves they are not big fund raisers we feel that they are an important entertainment contribution for our community.

They have been well attended and well received but of course more support would always be welcomed.

Our Race Night, including fish and chip supper, was a sell out and a great success. Not surprising at £7.50 a head !

It will be repeated on 13th October so please make a note in your diary not to miss it.

The annual quiz night, bacon bap events and the Christmas Fayre mulled wine stall in conjunction with All Saints , all contribute to our self- help income.

Maintaining the aim to bring added value to VH activities we have acquired 2 commercial quality Gazebos to help with our fund- raising.

These are available to, and can be borrowed by, village residents. There is no formal hiring charge but a donation would always be welcome.

They were purchased from donations received from guests at John and Jude Ragsdale's diamond wedding celebration held in the VH, and also a £300 grant from Howard Roberts' WCC Councillor's grant fund.

Also on the subject of items available on loan, please note that we have 2 wheelchairs which can be borrowed.

Before we embarked on the extensive and successful refurbishment exercise, all village residents were invited to comment on our plans and to make suggestions for improvements. Although not possible at that time one of our ultimate goals received universal public approval for the improvement of the toilet facilities.

I am pleased to report that professional advice is currently being sought and plans and suggestions are being drawn up and which should be available in the not too distant future.

Of course grant applications will be required and this invariably involves an element of match funding ----- so look out for the begging bowls.

As ever we are grateful for the support, and look forward to the continuing support, of village organisations and other regular users of the Hall.

Finally, and in closing, I would like to take this opportunity to encourage anyone arranging a party or function, or those unfamiliar with YOUR Village Hall to come along and see our facilities. You will be welcome.