

Report for Annual Parish Meeting Friday 19th May 2017

Currently the hall committee consists of only 6 members. Despite this we have managed to run the hall quite successfully for the last year.

Most of us were thrown in at the deep end after the resignations of almost the entire previous committee. We hit the ground running as it were, and have continued by doing our utmost to make the Charity all that it should be, a social, educational and recreational hub for the community it serves.

Our year began with Trevor insisting on remaining as a co opted member to help us finish the job he had begun on the final renovations of the old building. These were successfully completed, and we thank Trevor for his efforts on behalf of the community.

We have quite a few regular events and hirings;

Pilates (beginners and improvers for posture and strength) Classes are on a Monday morning with improvers at 9.15, and beginners at 10.15am.

Keep Fit, help to keep the more mature (over 50's) of us fit, with exercise to improve balance and strength. Our oldest participant is 99, so don't be worried if you're getting on in years, all welcome. Classes are 9.30 – 10.30 Thursday morning.

Temporary **Iyengar Yoga**. Whilst Tolpuddle Village Hall is being refurbished, yoga classes have relocated to Briantspuddle. Currently classes are held every Wednesday morning from 10.00am – 11.30am, and every Wednesday evening.

Short Mat Bowls, beginners lessons and games for the more experienced. Held from May onwards on a Monday evening in the Hall.

Briantspuddle Singers, this well known Dorset choir practices every Tuesday.

Coffee Shop, each Saturday morning from 10.00am -12.00midday there is an opportunity for residents and friends to meet and enjoy a delicious bacon roll and selection of home made cakes with tea or coffee. (held in the Jubilee room)

Briantspuddle Book-Let, on the 2nd Saturday of each month, during coffee shop opening times, you can 'hire' books for only 25p each, and leave old copies for someone else to enjoy.

Briantspuddle Talks, a programme of occasional talks over the winter months from September.

Lets Lunch, for parishioners over 50, provides a 3 course monthly lunch on the last Thursday of the month from 12.30pm – 2.30pm.

The Village (Hall) Lunch, A hearty and nourishing soup followed by pudding, cheese board and coffee with a treat is served every 2nd Thursday of the month. Again for the over 50s.

There are two meals provided in the hall each month and a coffee shop most Saturdays which means that residents have opportunities to socialise and enjoy a meal, a function provided nowhere else in the parish.

Along with regular events the hall has been used for an assortment of parties, and other private family and community events including Burns Night, and beautiful wedding last year. We have also hosted several very successful Artsreach events, as well as The Purbeck Film Festival. Unfortunately we lost the ScreenBites hiring last year due to some incorrect information given to the organisers about the work being carried out on the hall. However, trustees have been fulsomely complimented on the facilities and an increase in lettings is quite obvious from our diary.

Of course the committees work is helped and supported by some of the organisations who nominate a trustee to the committee. We have also received a great deal of help and encouragement from numerous members of the community and we are really very grateful for this, especially Cindy and Kate who give so willingly of their time at the drop of a hat.

I'd also like to single out Angie Talbot for taking on the huge burden of running of the 100+ club, Jenny Beedle for taking on the complicated organisation of the Artsreach programme, and Maggie Hoyle for her very capable running of our Purbeck Film Festival Matinee. Phil Scrace also organised a lovely Xmas Lights celebration and included carols and a selection of Christmas music in a very successful evening get together.

Sue Searle, though no longer a part of the committee has been and continues to be invaluable as the Booking Clerk and as a willing organiser of many events.

A key feature of my time as chair of the VHC has been an attempt to foster good relations with members of the community, and co-operation with other organisations, in a small community such as ours, as I'm sure you will all agree, we must all pull together to keep this as a great place to live.

The Hall finances are quite healthy at the moment and we have a few good interesting bookings in the pipeline including music, murder mystery and flamenco in the near future, look out in the Parish Mag and on notice boards for events later in the year.

The Open Gardens is approaching fast and there is a tremendous amount of work and organisation going into this event so we as a committee are rather tied up at the moment.

After that, the Hall Committee will be holding its' AGM on 7th June and, of course, you are all very welcome to attend. We can't forecast who will be in post in the after the AGM, but if the management carries on as it has this last year we can only hope for the communities support and continued goodwill.

So, finally I'd like to thank the members of our community who have attended, or organised events at the hall and helped to maintain its place at the centre of our community.