

2020 Village Hall Committee Report. (AGM).

Charity No. 1072261.

The May Annual General Meeting at the village hall is not possible due to the circumstances of the Virus.

The Trustees are however, obliged to be transparent in all that they do to inform the village of-what has happened financially and otherwise.

The minutes of the AGM 2019 are exhibited on the village hall website. (click [here](#))

In relation to that meeting a request was made for the strip floodlighting to be moved so that more light would be available for any function/presentation in that end of the hall. The committee obtained an electrician's quote, the matter discussed by the committee. The spot lights can be adjusted in any direction. It was decided that the cost of moving the whole strip, plus the lights are adjustable was decided not necessary especially due to the cost involved.

The 200 club was also, discussed at this meeting, however due to the lockdown and no use of the hall this matter was not resolved.

The finances have been audited and are available for inspection on the website (click [here](#)) and other village media outlets. Whilst the accounts show a loss of £7.7k, included in this figure is the £12.9k cost for the various hall improvements undertaken in the year. Grants from outside organisations for the year's projects totalled £85k, this included £2k from the local Pantry group. The committee much appreciates this financial support which has made possible the improvements to the facilities at the hall.

As the hall looks likely to be closed for some time and with demands of social distancing, the committee has suspended the 200 club for this year, but it will be back! The last draw of the year for March, April and May has been held over until the hall is open again.

Whilst there is now no income coming to the hall there are still some costs, around £1k a year, mainly that of £700 insurance. However, the hall has reserves of £32k to tide us over at this difficult time.

The present Committee is as follows: Chris Weavers Treasurer: Ken Howard Secretary: Kim Elliott Booking Clerk and Events: Bob Dixon Maintenance, building works and PR: Mario Terzino Technical and Play Area: Sandra Paisley Pop up Pub-Manager: Sam Mylam Safety and Events: Leslie Oldman Legal Advice.

During the past 12 months a number of additional improvements have been made inside and outside the hall.

Our Treasurer who prefers to spend other people's money (funding) as against ours, has secured substantial funds for these projects. Which has left the village hall finances in a very good state.

Bob oversaw the planning and building of the hall's extension, which meant the clutter usually associated with the hall is now out of sight. New fire doors, front doors and lobby doors were also fitted. The exterior and interior of the hall was repainted. Plus, other maintenance work carried out. Bob is now in the process of planning completely the refurbishment of the outdated toilets. The layout of the gents will be changed to remove the drinks cupboard and provide a second urinal. (The new drinks cupboard will be accessible from the main hall.) All sanitary ware in the ladies and gents will be replaced, new vinyl floors laid, new heaters installed, and the lighting will be automatically controlled'. Chris has obtained already £14k from Cherwell District Council towards this venture, and other funding applications are in the pipeline to cover hopefully the majority of the costs.

Mario was responsible for the planning and fund raising for the new children's play area. The facility was opened in March but the grand opening had to be cancelled, unfortunately it was only open for a few days when it had to be closed again until further government notice. CCTV has been installed and records cover the exterior of the hall. A new security system has been fitted to the hall entrance. A large TV monitor has been supplied on permanent loan, plus CD, Music and recording equipment fitted. Mario and Bob were the main committee members involved in the installation of the new hall heating/cooling system. The various quotes were discussed by the committee and fitting completed and handed over at the end of year. The heating/Cooling programme can be monitored and adjusted by various members of the committee from their homes and mobile phones. Mario has been the main instigator of Piddington Community Radio 'PCR' 'A Heart-warming experience, this is on a 12-month trial.

The speakers in the hall were fitted by a villager which now connects to the music equipment etc.

The new village hall kitchen has been a great success and was worth the long wait in getting it.

A donated dishwasher has now been fitted into the kitchen, which will make life easier for all who use the hall where refreshments are taken.

Pop up Pub which was never really started as a money-making initiative has thrived under the hand of Sandra, who buys the beers etc. And can talk you into having another when you thought of leaving. The Pub nights all make a profit.

Kim is responsible for all the bookings made for the halls use, only if some unusual request is made are the committee involved. Kim and Sam are the main 'Doer's when it comes to organising functions and decorating the hall when needed. They have the patience of 'Job' in setting the hall up and many functions would not take place without them.

Leslie our senior committee member and legally trained. He makes sure that all we do or propose to do is good? He will often wind up a discussion in committee with the saying 'let's keep it simple' which as has been said before is unheard of in legal circles!!

I as Secretary just shuffle papers and responsible for all records that arise from meetings and decisions. Due to the Lockdown and no meetings the Bye Laws have been amended to allow us to carry on and all decisions are copied and held with past minutes.

Piddington Village Hall is possibly one of the best small equipped village halls in Oxfordshire, and we have not finished yet. The committee is dedicated to the cause of offering our village a location which they can use in comfort and safety for almost any function at a very reasonable cost. They do this duty with their time, many who have full time jobs and families knowing it is used and appreciated.

The committee appreciates the support that the village shows them.

K Howard Secretary.