

Hall report.

In 2022 we saw a small increase in our hall hires. The £10 hourly charge had not seemed to have affected bookings and whereas other village halls like Oakhill have increased their hourly rate further to £15 per hour we are aiming not too follow suit. However that will require some grant hunting and event organising on behalf of the committee, which we are all currently prepared to do. Numbers attending events is however still low compared to pre COVID events and expected revenue from the bar down overall. In essence everything has gone up except expected revenue.

Our running costs from 1st April 2022 to 31st March 23 came to a total of £6597.17 and we would like to thank the Parish Council for their grant of £2500 contribution towards the £1700 gas and electric cost, £850 public liability insurance charge and a contribution towards the cleaning cost.

The Hall committee worked hard during the year, running events to not only help prevent loneliness and improve cohesiveness but to support the community and generate enough revenue to keep the hall running. The Queens Jubilee weekend being one such community event and the well-attended senior resident meals another. The cinema is still running on a monthly basis throughout the winter and numbers are encouraging.

We supported one charity event in April of 22 which saw a coffee morning take place to raise funds to support the Ukrainian situation.

A grant was awarded from MDC for improvements to the facilities which allowed us to reroof the outside storage units and set aside funds to repair the sink unit and work surfaces behind the bar which is planned for this summer. Grants are now harder to come by and none have been obtained so far this year.

Our aim is to try and ensure that the hall is accessible to all and that our charges are reasonable to the community whilst operating safely and fulfilling our legal obligations. We are lucky we still have enough volunteers willing to help make that happen.

First opened in June 1923, the village hall celebrates its 100<sup>th</sup> birthday year of being open to the public this year. On the 17<sup>th</sup> of June we are planning a birthday party to celebrate this milestone and have other events in the pipeline running up to Christmas to ensure we include as many people, across the ages, as possible, in the celebrations .