

Gayton Jubilee Village Hall - Annual Report April 2019-2020

Virtual Zoom Meeting Tuesday 26 May 2020 - 7.30pm

**Attendees: Mrs Jacqui Gowers, Mrs Jo Mace,
Mrs Sally Attwell, Mrs Vanessa Shadbolt**

Due to the Coronavirus pandemic, the trustees have agreed to conduct the Jubilee Hall Committee' AGM as a closed meeting. The year's events can be noted as follows:

Since the AGM of April 2019, the hall has continued under the management of its trustees. My thanks go to Sally Attwell, Jo Mace and Vanessa Shadbolt for their ongoing work during the financial year. They have freely given their time and goodwill in support of the Jubilee Hall and community. As trustees, we carry on with our approach for obtaining new business and users to the hall. However, whilst initial take-up by parishioners appeared promising, some events, such as 'coffee morning' closed. We are personally unable to sustain opening the hall for small numbers, without achieving some profit in return. (In order to maintain the property, carry out regular duties, the trustees have already agreed, by email, their re-election for year 2020/2021.)

Our regular events of summer fayre, seasonal bingo and scarecrow competition are enjoyed by the community and with the existing hall group activities by the 'Knit and Natter' and 'Little Scamps,' the addition of 'Zumba' and Yoga classes have met with enthusiasm and provided extra income for the hall's coffers. The established booking for weekly user, 'Slimming World' run by Jo, has been the most successful revenue earner for the hall. (Please reference the financial report attached) It was the success of the summer fayre which enabled the purchase and siting of the new notice board on Back Street and it is already a well-used resource for community sharing.

The trustees, together with Mark Shadbolt (outgoing maintenance) and Neil Attwell, decorated the lower sections of wall throughout the main hall. Once again, a deep clean of kitchen and store room was carried out. The oil-fired boiler for the heating does need replacing but as it is costly, an overhaul with new burners fitted, has managed to extend its life, for now. The property insurances are in place and provide peace of mind for all and we comply with all regulatory codes required of our village hall.

Inevitably, the cost of oil and electricity increased over this year as with all utilities, which means, any drop of income eats into reserves and limits the amount of essential repair work we can proceed with. At the time of writing this report, the hall's income has suffered with none received in its first quarter of the new financial year and it is unlikely to change for some considerable time. That said, our projection for coming year is less bleak but that is solely due to obtaining a grant of £10,000.00, which was awarded based on the hall trustees, providing a service (retail) to the community. The costs of maintaining the hall are

approximately £6000 plus, per annum and with the loss of revenue from established users, the likely need for a new boiler, our reserves will quickly be depleted.

The Trustees continue to believe that a village hall provides a vital resource and social centre for the Parish community and although we continue to look for new users, we acknowledge this hall's limitations, its unattractive surroundings, lack of parking facility and that the current building, is no longer able to fulfil its remit. For example, an important factor for the trustees to now consider is how the virus lockdown affects users when they reconsider, post lockdown, the hall space, one room without partitions as opposed to historically, how they were free to use the space. We believe this may impact on large group activities within the hall, for some time to come.

The ongoing chatter regards provision for a modern facility is not new. Whilst a parcel of (trust) land is available (2022) and build options historically researched, the irrefutable fact is Gayton Parish is growing. Therefore, the trustee's opinion is for a new, modern purpose built (sustainable build) facility with green space and recreation area. It should include sufficient parking, be fit for multiple groups and differing functions and importantly for all ages.

Taking this into account we have met with Mr Alistair Beales of the Parish Council and we are in the early stages of discussion regarding the possible options and work required to achieve a new village hall. We have also met with the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group and they have offered help where needed.

The trustees ask that Alistair, continue as the PC representative on the Jubilee Hall Committee, in order for our recent discussions to continue and real progress to be made during the coming year of 2020/2021.

At the time of writing this report, we have not received any feedback from our user groups for the last financial year but in the circumstances this is understandable. Finally, we would like to thank everyone for their support over the past year and hope they are able to continue to provide events for the villager's enjoyment.

Thank you

Jacqui Gowers

Trustee and Chair (2019/2020)