

Bridgerule Village Hall Limited Chairman's Report

Bridgerule Village Hall Committee Up to May 2019

Overview

Once again, the year has been very successful with various new activities taking place. This has given an opportunity for people to try different activities. Larger groups have been using the Hall for wedding receptions, Jamming sessions and the usual concerts. Improvements to the Hall We have not done any major improvements to the Hall this year as we were awaiting the result of our grant application to The Lottery.

We were successful in our application and were awarded £63,466 to replace the main roof and re-model the entrance with a new roof and canopy. This work is due to start in May this year. Materials are being delivered 21st May.

We have completely refurbished the storage area to the Right-Hand side of the stage and this work was completed last month. It has given us a lot more space to store equipment as it is now watertight and dry.

The stage has been sanded down and varnished and new stage curtains have been ordered.

We were asked to have wall lights fitted by some users as the original lights could not be "dimmed" and this was done as well as replacing the main lights with LED lights that are more cost effective .

Finances

We have been lucky to have received grants this current year from The National Lottery of £63,466, £5,040 from Trusthouse Charitable Foundation, and £1200 from the Parish Council (Courtesy of the Parish Council ,Councillor John Medland) . We were also awarded £7636 from the "Awards for All" section of the Lottery to support some new activities and fund a professional evaluation exercise . We have also received donations from local people. Fund raising activities in the village hall have raise some large amounts, we made £1,750 on the Johnny Cowling concert and £1350 on the monthly Table top Sale(courtesy of Christine Gee) and £360 from the Christmas concert. The bank balance is in a healthy condition at the moment, but a lot of the money is "ring fenced" for ongoing work but we are delighted that we are still being supported by the regular activities that take place. There are also some new activities starting soon.

Future Activities

Unfortunately, the luncheon Club that was started last year and was very successful has now stopped, this is due to the fact that Fran and Gill, (the cooks), have moved to Scotland. Use it or lose it Exercise group, and Whist every 3 weeks and another day of Table tennis has been booked.

Just at the moment I have taken a "back seat" due to a hip operation and our impending move out of the village whilst our new bungalow is built, so most of the work has been carried out by Sheila Cholwill (as always!) and I am indebted to her for her enthusiasm, and hard work. Everything she does seems to be a success.

We now have three new people on the committee which brings us up to 9 which is a nice number to enable work to be divided to prevent any one person doing too much.

Chris Hitchings - Chairperson Bridgerule Hall Committee