

WMVHCIO Trustees Report for 2019/21

This report covers the period from the previous AGM on 25th November 2019, to 23rd February 2021.

The Village Hall CIO Trustees have had a challenging 15 months. Everything was going steadily until March 2020, when the whole country was gradually shut down by the coronavirus pandemic. Most of our users decided not to meet, and have not yet been able to re-start. We made plans and bought cleaning materials so that those who wanted to meet could continue safely, with limited numbers in the hall, but eventually all use of the hall was ended for 6 months.

However, we took advantage of the shut-down, to implement a decision we had already taken, to have the inside of the hall redecorated, and that went ahead unhindered. We received a grant which almost paid for this work.

We applied for, and were awarded, another grant which has allowed us to have hot water installed in the front and back toilets and kitchen.

In October, two of the hall's users started meeting again, but were only able to run for a few weeks before being shut down again.

During the spring and summer the Village Hall New Build group continued to meet, as and when it was possible and safe to do so, and decided that in the current economic climate we would be very unlikely to be able to raise the funding to build a new hall, so made a recommendation to the Trustees to change to a refurbishment plan. This was reported to the Parish Council and the public, and plans are now being made to change course.

We have to wait to see when the hall is able to be used again, and which groups will return. Unfortunately we know that the Elderberries Group has decided to shut down, and we have lost the services of our cleaner, so currently do not have one, although, of course, there are no users of the hall to clean for, at the moment.

The village hall finances are still sound, and although there has been very little income from lettings, our expenditure has been down too. We are, of course, very grateful for the special grants that we have received.

22nd February 2021