

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 2020

This meeting was scheduled for 18th May 2020 but, as the country was in lockdown and the VH closed, did not take place. This report and all the others included today relate to the 12-month period to April 2020.

2019-2020 has been a successful year for our Village hall. Kirsty and I took on the role of Joint Chair following Helen's departure and it is fair to say that we have been busy since then.

Sound insulation panels were installed in April 2019 and we have received very favourable feedback.

During a portable Pint meeting on of the chair legs went through the wooden flooring on the stage, On inspection it became evident that this had happened before. The floor was repaired and resurfaced but we were advised that the red chairs were unsuitable for use on a suspended floor. Orange chairs with sleigh type legs were purchased and designated for stage use.

The operating system for the heating was replaced by a remotely operated system requiring an internet connection. This was a far lengthier process than anticipated and was further complicated by a failure of the heating boiler. We organised a SIM card and usage will be reinstated when Hall bookings resume.

We had to look more closely at our operating systems and as a result updated our Safeguarding Policy, Data protection policy and our Conditions of hire.

Our annual accounts are now externally audited by Greg Walker and Sarah our Treasurer presents a report of account activity at each committee meeting.

Our Hadstock Village Hall website was operated through Essex CC who closed their facility at the start of the year. Our new website was designed by Nextnorth and incorporates all the main village societies. [www.hadstock.org.uk]

Fund raising events included the Christmas Bazaar, Saffron screen cinema night and quiz night plus the post Fete Jumble sale organised by Karen Delamaine. Thank you to everyone for their support.

Village events included the post-fete Hog roast, post-fete drinks for Fete volunteers, Harvest lunch and a 90th birthday celebration for Crockie.

We continued to be supported by our regular users: Hadstock Silver Band, Bridge Club, Yoga, Table Tennis, Portable Pint, Hadstock Parish council and the Hadstock society.

We received grants of £500 each from Round Table and Stansted Airport fund.

The village 100 club organised by Barbara Bye and her team of enthusiastic helpers continues to provide a regular annual income and of course the Village Fete once again gave a major boost to our finances. Thank you to Tim Boyden, chair, and members of the fete committee who spend 6 months planning and organising the event. Thanks also to everyone in the village who contributes to the success of the day.

Until you are involved in the business of operating and caring for the Village Hall it is very difficult to imagine the complexity of the task. Kirsty and I would like to thank all the trustees for their time and the efforts made to try to ensure the continuing success of Hadstock Village Hall.

Lynn Nuttall and Kirsty Hutchinson.