



Village Hall Committee -Chairman's Report 2010

This has been my first year as Chairman of the Village Hall. I was glad to see that Dolly who was made President last year has come to the meetings and she is around if I need to ask about times past.

It has been a quiet year, with just the usual small problems of maintenance that happen in any household. We have however replaced the guttering and down pipes at the front of the Hall which was in a bad state of repair, made a soak away for the downpipe near the Dr's Surgery so the fear of someone slipping on ice is now dealt with. We have also painted the doors. This has brightened up the front and the back will be seen to when we have the money.

We have attracted some new bookings to the hall, thanks to Prue and these are doing well. We could have had more if we had disabled facilities as Age UK and the U3A would have put our name on their list of halls available. We have future plans to do something about access as well as refurbishing the whole of the hall. With this in view we have already seen one Architect and another is due for an inspection tomorrow. Then we will have to decide which Architect to ask to do a Design plan for us of the whole plan. We need to start fundraising in order to be able to raise a grant to pay for the Design and then once we know what we are doing and how much it will cost to fundraise in order to get more grants for the work.

So after a quiet year, the next year looks as if it will be an exciting one and one that will make the hall available to everyone, warm, soundproof, disabled access and better facilities all round. At this point I must thank Pat Davison who has already started fundraising for us. Her Calendar of watercolours of the village are delightful and the profit from this venture is all for the village hall, so I would urge you to buy one! There are only 400 altogether and this is just one per household, so please buy and do your bit for the Hall. They can be bought from the Post Office in the Village at £8 each.

I also wish to thank Bert for all his help in getting me settled into the Chairmanship, showing me the Archives etc. and all his work in dealing with painters, builders and plumbers during the year. He will be greatly missed, but after seven years during which time he made sure that the Hall belongs to the Village at the Land Registry, that the Trustees have insurance in place etc., a long and difficult task, he deserves a break. He has already said that he will be near at hand if I need any help and thank you for that as well.

Terry as always is always at hand to keep the Hall looking tidy and closes the gate to the hall pathway on Boxing Day morning – he deserves a medal for that! Thank you Terry for all you do as well.

I must not forget the Treasurer, Alison, who has been active in getting insurance at a reasonable price and keeping the books in order. Her job will get busier as we start fundraising. The committee itself must not be forgotten as without them and their input where would we be.

So thank you everyone. I hope I haven't left anyone out and here's to the next year.
Beryl Catterall.