

## Cherhill Village Hall

# AGM

Thursday 14th March 2024 7:30 pm  
Cherhill Village Hall

### CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Cherhill Village Hall continues to be a valuable village asset, used and enjoyed by the community far beyond the parameters of the village itself.

Booking levels at the hall have remained consistently high and, as always, I would like to thank all our regular users for their continuing support. We do have some slots that remain available, so please let me or the Booking Clerk know if you are interested in filling these.

**Website** - The website, originally re-launched in December of 2021, has been regularly updated to promote events and act as a booking facility and source of relevant information. For all the events hosted by The Village Hall, the website has become a platform for ticket sales, registrations, and information. In the last 12 months, the village hall website has received just over 4,600 visitors. Whilst many users of the site are frequent users of the hall, (returning to check the booking calendar etc.), over 3,000 of these visitors were new to the site. The website booking form has been used 47 times and fault and feedback info has been submitted 9 times. With this level of traffic in mind, the committee will consider if there are opportunities for the website to be further used to serve the users of the hall and our community in general.

**Fundraising & Community Engagement** - Our first community fundraising event of the year was to celebrate the Coronation of King Charles III. The celebrations took place from the 5<sup>th</sup> to the 8<sup>th</sup> of May 2023. Following a similar format to the late Queen's Diamond Jubilee celebrations of the previous year, we took to the Village Hall's Park Lane field and hosted a full weekend of entertainment and celebration. Sadly, the weather was not on our side in the same way as it had been to celebrate the Jubilee. However, this did nothing to deter our fantastic community from embracing the occasion with the events being supported by nearly 900 attendees over the weekend.

It goes without saying that such a weekend is not possible without a huge amount of community support. The Village Hall Committee wish to thank all of those who helped make it possible.

In October, we saw the return of the Cherhill Grand Auction. Another event that attributes its success and popularity to an incredible team of volunteers who give their time to make it possible. The hall is literally bursting at its seams with Lot after Lot of 'priceless antiques'....and some other stuff! It is great fun, and a huge amount of thanks goes to all of those involved. The profits raised from the Auction are so important to aid with the funds to run and maintain the hall. It was also a pleasure this year to be able to support Parkinsons UK with a donation of over £1000.

In February of this year, we were pleased to see the return of the Barn Dance. Another sold-out event that everybody in attendance enjoyed. The band were fantastic, the atmosphere electric and the hall, very hot! Food was served, and a raffle called. Again, a massive thank you to all involved in the organisation of this event, but also for the kind donations of raffle prizes and to those who prepared the food for the evening.

**Safety & Maintenance** – Safety at the Hall remains our primary concern. Our committee routinely test the fire detection system, keep fire extinguishers up to date and ensure all health and safety and fire prevention provisions are checked and recorded. Regular electrical testing is also programmed into the annual maintenance program for the hall.

**Replacement Boiler** – Regular users of the hall may recall the chilly winter of 2022! In January of 2023, following a period of living with a very emotional old boiler, we invested in an upgrade of the Village Hall heating system. This involved replacement of the defunct boiler, along with the installation and relocation of an upgraded oil tank. A considerable amount of time was given to investigating the possibility of a more sustainable alternative to oil. Unfortunately, we found no viable alternative that would commercially meet the needs of this hall in the time available.

**Upgraded Audio and Video System** – We have recently installed a full upgrade of the audio and video system within the hall. The purpose of this upgrade was two-fold. Firstly, the previous installation had reached the end of its life and, due to ever evolving tech, it was increasingly difficult to ensure it remained compatible with modern devices. Secondly, we wanted to ensure that the facilities at the hall were accessible for all users. It was important to have a system that is easy to use and

to be able to provide clear instructions on how to do so. We also wanted to improve the hearing loop within the hall to ensure we are doing all we can to make every presentation, event, and production as accessible as possible.

Whilst the design and installation of the new system was carried out, at no cost, by the committee, we were thrilled to have applied for and been successful in securing a grant from The National Lottery Community Fund to pay for the equipment involved in this upgrade.

## **Trustee Changes**

Since the last AGM, Keri Lynch and Jan Lord decided to step down from the committee. They have both contributed significantly to the village hall during their time on the committee and I would like to thank them both very much for their support and contribution.

Rob Hylands and Richard Catt, were both kind enough to express interest in supporting the hall and joining the committee. They were co-opted as Trustees during the year and have quickly become valuable and committed contributors to the team. The Trustees would also like to thank John Spiller, who has recently joined the Committee in this capacity. All three have expressed a willingness to become a full Trustee and are standing for election this evening.

If any Cherhill resident is interested in helping to manage the hall as a Trustee, please get in touch.

## **The Year Ahead:**

**Hire Fees** - The village hall, like every other organisation and home in the country, continues to see increases in our running costs. Following the difficult decision to raise the hire rate from 1st January 2023, we were acutely aware that the issue was not resolved but assisted. The fact is, the hall costs more to run than it brings in, despite an incredible amount of volunteer input. You will see from the booking calendar that the hall is well used. We plan to advertise and try to increase our income by attracting bookings for the remaining slots, but despite a good occupancy rate, we simply can not bring in enough money with our current structure. The running costs of the hall are around £12,000 per year. Income from hire of the hall per year is around £8,800, meaning that the hall is running an annual deficit of around £3,200. Despite additional income from our solar panels, we are running at a substantial loss.

Clearly, despite being one of the most successful village halls, we cannot continue to run at a loss. We have undertaken a fundamental review of our booking fees. Over the years some material discrepancies have been allowed to grow between different user groups. We intend to adjust fees to address these discrepancies at the same time as increasing the overall fee take to balance our books. We will do this over time and current proposals will move in this direction but we still expect to make a moderate loss in the coming year. An uplift of the hire rates is inevitable, and we will be in touch with our regular users shortly to discuss these with you.

**The New Village Hall** – I said at the last AGM that the focus of the newly appointed committee would turn squarely to the significant task of raising the funds required for the building of the new village hall. Well, I am pleased to confirm that there has indeed been a lot of work undertaken in this regard. Strategy meetings have taken place with specialists in the construction and architectural field to aid in the preparation of meaningful grant applications. This will continue to be an ongoing priority. We are all aware of how ambitious the plans for the new hall are but remain passionate about finding a way of securing funding to realise what will be a truly incredible community asset.

You may have noticed that a start has been made in the Park Lane field to install services and we currently await formal confirmation from Wiltshire Council that this “start” has been recognised.

Finally, I must thank the team of Trustees who have managed the hall on your behalf:

Alan Moore – Vice Chair  
David Cracknell – Treasurer  
Maggie Moore – Bookings  
Nick White  
Nathan Bliss  
Dave Grafton  
Sharon Simmons  
Rob Hylands  
Richard Catt  
John Spiller

## **Cherhill Village Hall**

# **AGM**

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**RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS**

## Cherhill Village Hall (CIO)

Charity No. 1164373

### Receipts and Payments Accounts - Summary

For the period from 01 January 2023 to 31 December 2023

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2022 £
<b>Receipts</b>				
Donations and Grants	715	3,692	4,407	10,032
Hall Hire	8,020	-	8,020	8,676
Fund Raising	22,611	-	22,611	16,239
Other Trading Activities	2,337	-	2,337	2,324
Key and Hall Hire Deposits	20	-	20	-
Other Receipts	151	-	151	-
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>33,853</b>	<b>3,692</b>	<b>37,545</b>	<b>37,270</b>
<b>Payments</b>				
Fund Raising	15,963	-	15,963	14,280
Hall Running Costs	7,063	-	7,063	6,950
Support Costs	2,817	1,078	3,895	4,589
New Assets	10,758	4,106	14,864	17,716
Key and Hall Hire Deposit Refunds	-	-	-	10
Architects, Consultancy & Surveys	-	-	-	86
Other	1	-	1	3
<b>Total Payments</b>	<b>36,601</b>	<b>5,184</b>	<b>41,785</b>	<b>43,634</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>(2,747)</b>	<b>(1,492)</b>	<b>(4,240)</b>	<b>(6,364)</b>
<b>Cash funds last year end</b>	<b>42,324</b>	<b>3,485</b>	<b>45,808</b>	<b>52,172</b>
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>39,576</b>	<b>1,992</b>	<b>41,568</b>	<b>45,808</b>

#### New Assets

Replacement Boiler Including Installation	£5,268
Replacement Oil Tank	£5,490
Audio Visual Upgrade Equipment	£4,106
	<u>£14,864</u>

#### Fund Raising Events (Net Receipts)

King's Coronation Celebrations	£4,164
Auction	£1,168
Barn Dance	£149
	<u>£5,481</u>

**Debtors** £0

**Creditors** £1,167

#### Liabilities

Keys and Hall Hire Deposits £200

## Receipts and Payments Accounts - Detail

For the period from 01 January 2023 to 31 December 2023

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2022 £
<b>Receipts</b>				
100 Club	715	-	715	690
Donations and Gifts	-	-	-	75
Grants	-	3,692	3,692	9,267
Hall Hire	8,020	-	8,020	8,676
Auction	2,691	-	2,691	1,626
Barn Dance	485	-	485	-
King's Coronation Celebrations	19,435	-	19,435	14,613
Solar Panel Feed in Tariff	2,337	-	2,337	2,275
Key and Hall Hire Deposits	20	-	20	20
Other	151	-	151	29
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>33,853</b>	<b>3,692</b>	<b>37,545</b>	<b>37,270</b>

<b>Payments</b>				
King's Coronation Celebrations	15,271	-	15,271	13,363
Auction	355	-	355	917
Barn Dance	336	-	336	
Repairs & Maintenance	875	-	875	998
Cleaning & Expenses	3,153	-	3,153	2,664
Electricity	1,103	-	1,103	687
Heating Oil	755	-	755	1,654
Waste Collection	394	-	394	324
Water & Sewage	782	-	782	623
Administration/Communication	617	-	617	69
Broadband/Wi-Fi	318	-	318	296
Insurance	1,351	-	1,351	1,083
Legal and Accountancy	-	822	822	2,518
Licences and Subscriptions	377	-	377	348
Sundry Expenses	153	256	409	275
New Assets	10,758	4,106	14,864	17,716
Key Deposit Refunds	-	-	-	10
Architect & Consultancy Fees	-	-	-	-
Surveys	-	-	-	86
Other	1	-	1	3
<b>Total Payments</b>	<b>36,601</b>	<b>5,184</b>	<b>41,785</b>	<b>43,634</b>