

Hutton Buscel Village Hall Management Committee

Annual Report – March 2023

With the improvement in the Covid pandemic outbreak, we have seen a resurgence of activity and interest in the village hall in the past year. Several improvements have been made to the facilities, not least a much-needed replacement of the outer door, roof and ceiling repairs, refurbishment of the toilets, decorating,

The enthusiastic and dedicated team on the Village Hall Committee have worked hard to ensure it returns to its pre-pandemic popularity as a great community asset.

We are always looking for new ideas to put the hall to use, one of the latest is a Murder Mystery Night which is being planned, and it is regularly used by the Art Club, Yoga Group, family events and of course the successful quiz nights. It is an ideal venue for craft groups, lectures, coffee mornings, educational projects and children's parties.

While the hall's funds are sound, thanks to grants obtained during the pandemic, our income will be reduced as a result of the sad closure of the Derwent Valley Pre-School after 55 years due to staff shortages and a declining number of youngsters.

It has been a wonderful facility not only for Hutton Buscel families but those in neighbouring villages, enabling children to have a splendid start in their lives, socially and educationally. We appreciate the hard work and skills of those running the school over the years to the benefit of many local families.

The committee has recently drawn up a hiring agreement, fire safety policy and new charges for the use of the hall.

It is an ideal asset to such annual events as the Open Gardens and Village Show, which the committee ran last year. The loss of the pre-school will result in a significant drop in income but hopefully new uses will come forward.

Our plans to refurbish the kitchen have had to be put on hold for the time being but hopefully they will materialise because such improvements will enhance the hall's appeal to potential users and in the next few months we hope to take forward the refurbishment of the playground equipment.

Finally, can I thank the hall committee for all their help, administratively and exploring new ideas, especially David Pendlebury our vice chairman and Secretary Carol Barnes who both do a great job in helping the sustainability of the hall. And our thanks too, go to the residents for their unstinting support for the hall's events.

We always welcome new members so please contact us if you are interested, But we are also on the lookout for new ideas for future events, which could be staged in the hall to the benefit of everyone in Hutton Buscel.

David Jeffels
Chairman