

ELLERKER VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE

Annual General Meeting (Zoom)

25 February 2021

Chairman's report

[Good evening and thank you trustees, committee members and members of the community for attending this Zoom meeting this evening and for your interest in the Village Hall. You are all very welcome.]

Firstly, I would like to thank members of the committee for their help and support. The committee comprises myself as chairman, Sue Parker, secretary and church representative, Tricia Christmas, church representative Mike Parker, treasurer and Neighbourhood Watch Representative; Suwfieya Habergham, Bookings Officer and Parish Council representative, David Wood Neighbourhood Watch and Linda Wilson and Mike Riding. David Wood has tendered his resignation and I would like to thank him for his many years of service to the committee, varnishing floors, painting, cleaning gutters and so on and for always being a willing hand. Mike Riding has tendered his resignation for personal reasons with effect from April and we will really miss his contribution and support. Brenda Jackson, who has done our cleaning over the years has tendered her resignation because of her health; we understand and thank her for her invaluable support too.

This AGM was due to have taken place in November 2019. Because of this horrific pandemic it was shelved and we didn't have any meetings until we realised the wonders of Zoom. However, the village hall is regularly inspected, it is cleaned, displaced roofing tiles are repaired and plumbing leaks sorted. Whilst we haven't had a barn dance or any regular meetings or classes in the hall we did have a couple of committee meetings. One regarding the possible merger between ourselves and the playing fields committee confirmed that there were no significant savings to be made and there were concerns that a merging would result in fewer people having to do disproportionately more. These concerns overrode views

expressed to the contrary that the combined numbers of people involved would provide security in the event of a committee falling short in its membership on one or other of the bodies.

As you appreciate the lack of activity has meant a steep decline in income whilst many of our costs still have to be borne. I would like to give a special thank you for the initiative of Mike Parker who was quick to apply for a government grant of £10,000, which was banked in May of last year. This will obviously shore up our budget and allays concerns that we might otherwise have had, even with a healthy financial position.

We can only hope that the last 12 months during the Covid pandemic will be well and truly behind us when we hold our next AGM this coming November and that we will be back to a normality or close to it and I can report on a successful return to previous activities and perhaps some new ones.

One further point, because of resignations we are going to undertake a leaflet drop seeking new committee members. If you know anyone who might be interested could you please kindly let Sue Parker know.

In closing I need to remind everyone of the Time Capsule under the concrete ramp by the front door of the hall.

That concludes my report and thank you for your attention.