

Achievement and Performance

Well, what a strange and difficult year 2020 has been. The Village Hall suspended all new bookings and cancelled pre-bookings in March 2020 in line with Government regulations to counter the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic on the community. Although restrictions were eased in mid 2020, the Trustees decided that the risks associated with opening the hall for a potentially diverse range of activities, with limited oversight from the Charity, was too big a risk to the community, and the Hall has remained closed to date. With restrictions being lifted as we move into 2021 we are anticipating a return to 'normal' activities in mid 2021, although we expect that 'normal' will never be quite the same.

Behind the scenes the Trustees have continued to meet (virtually) and to exercise a duty of care to the purpose and intent of the Charity and to the care and improvement of the physical structure of the Hall and its grounds. Several activities have been ongoing. We purchased a heart defibrillator to be installed on the wall of the Hall (subject to planning permission) in the coming months, our plans to re-landscape the garden area started in February/March 2020, were suspended, but should be completed in spring 2021, and we have worked with the utility companies in preparation for the installation of internet connections.

Despite the trials of the pandemic in 2020, the Trusts finances are, at the time of writing, in good shape. Through 2020 we have had no fund raising income. However, because of invaluable support received from South Norfolk District Council to compensate for any Covid-related losses, our current finances remain in healthy condition and our ambitions are for a strong range of activities in 2021/22 to encourage re-engagement with the Village Hall after closure and, optimistically, to celebrate a return to 'normality' for the community.

This has been a difficult year for all but we hope that as social and health conditions improve the Hall will again provide a community resource that helps rebuild our sense of well-being. For 2021, our conditions for using the Hall, including our Safeguarding Policy, remain unchanged.

Dr Andy Maule
Chairman