

Doynton Village Hall

Chairman's Report 2016

We started 2016 with the Hall closed. Thanks to Matt Crawford and his team, the much debated toilet refurbishment was finally in progress. The hall re-opened in February the work completed on time and budget. The new facilities have been very well received by our users and visitors. In the latter stages of the work the Hall was used as the HQ for the first Doynton Hard Half Marathon. A very muddy affair but enjoyed by competitors and spectators alike. It looks likely to become an annual event with the second having already taken place a couple of weeks ago. We had some concerns that the hall would not be up to its usual standard for following users as unlike last year the Hall was fully operational. Thanks go to Pete Blanchard and his team from Emersons Green Running Club, they scrubbed the Hall from top to Bottom and by the time the Monday evening Dog trainers arrived the only mud left was on a pair of discarded Trainers on the patio destined for the bin.

We have had a few changes to the Hall Management committee in 2016, Tracey Baker and Martin Jones joined the committee. Lindsay Georgiou, Teresa Lander and Sue Merrell took over the roles of Treasurer, Booking Secretary, and Secretary, respectively.

Thanks to them all for making the time to support the hall and community.

By the spring the car park was looking a little muddy in some areas. Fred Ellis kindly donated and laid some stone in the muddier places.

Hall bookings continue to be strong with the Hall in use on most days. Weddings have again been popular and our quota of 5 was again achieved, we have even received a booking for 2019. We will keep the limit at 5 to protect availability for other events. The Hall finances have therefore remained healthy.

In August we hosted a summer party for the village, the intention being to provide an event for the village without trying to fund raise. Thanks to Tracey Baker it was a great success with a BBQ on Saturday evening and a free children's party on Sunday, both were enjoyed by all who attended. It also made a small loss hence no chance of any fund raising! Luckily the pv cells on the roof continue to make a good contribution to the funds.

The Hall also received a share of the proceeds from the Old Rectory garden open days, thanks to Clive and Edwina Humby.

Finally I would like to thank everyone who helps out with various functions and tasks and give their time generally supporting the committee and our Village Hall. Especially Anne Fisher and Wendy Scott who after many years as Trustees, have decided to stand down for a well earned rest.

Pete Hart