

REPORT TO THE PARISH ASSEMBLY FROM THE BLISWORTH VILLAGE HALL AND PLAYING FIELDS ASSOCIATION March 2018

The Village Hall continues to be in regular use by various clubs. Most use is by Pre-school, who now have a longer session on Thursdays, followed by Bowls, Pilates, Film Club, Heritage Society, WI, and Mothers Club. The bookings for occasional use have increased substantially following the improvements to the fabric of the hall. As usual figures for income for the year ended 31st March are not yet available.

Once again we were pleased to be able to host the Art Show weekend and the Canal Festival weekend. Mothers Club membership has increased again and they generally use the Main Hall for their winter meetings. They also organised a most successful New Year's Eve Party, which they intend to repeat for the current year's end.

The Village Hall was used as one of the venues for the Best Village judges visit and a celebration tea following our success in the competition was held

Our main improvement to the Hall this year has been the redecoration of the hallways and the stairwell, which has made it more light and airy. New LED lights and extensions to the handrails have improved the safety of the narrow staircase. The panelling in the Main Hall has been extended right round the room and decorated to match. The surfaces of the hatches have been recovered and all the storage heaters have been updated now. There is less requirement for the wall heaters to be used except when it is really cold. We have updated the storage heaters in the upstairs room and hope to redecorate and renew the strip lights in the coming year.

The 250 Club

The 250 club, continues to thrive, thanks to Estelle Rose and her band of collectors. It continues to provide a welcome addition to our funds.

There are about 30 numbers spare so we would welcome new members as it is a source of income for the Village Hall. The volunteers who collect the annual membership have been very busy and most of the fees are in.

The Playing Fields

Ownership of the road up to the Football Club car park has never been established but the VHPFA intend to improve the surface this Spring.

The Football Club have been successful in the Tesco's Bags of Help grant competition and it is hoped that the provision of CCTV in the area will deter fly tippers and other vandals. We are working closely with the Club to help with their plans for a new club house. We feel that the successful teams deserve better facilities. In the meantime the existing clubhouse has been cleaned up and painted.

The Village Hall and Playing Fields are delighted with the donation from Mr AJ Patel of our Village Shop towards the cost of the track. Hearing about the Tesco's Scheme Bags of Help, AJ decided to charge for plastic bags and raised an impressive £354.

Ann North Secretary Blisworth Village Hall and Playing Fields