

ZEAL MONACHORUM VILLAGE HALL AGM - CHAIR'S REPORT 18/11/2024

While it may appear that the building is the focus of our work, what is really central is people enjoying and making use of the space. For the Committee and all the others who volunteer to help, satisfaction comes when people have had a good time at the hall which makes it all worthwhile.

We have to raise money through holding our own events to pay for day to day bills - maintenance, insurance, water, electric, safety checks etc.

This year that's included some very well attended events including: Cheer up January Party; Quiz & Pasty; Spring & Autumn Shows; Big Breakfast; Festival of Short Films; Poet Comedian evening; Harvest Supper & Ghost Talk; monthly Bingo in the darker months and weekly Coffee Mornings. As you heard from Mike healthy amounts of money have been raised. We were disappointed to have to cancel our Boules & BBQ because it clashed with other events and a shortage of volunteers.

Our monthly Markets have struggled sometimes because of fewer stalls & consequently fewer people came - but the November one was a big improvement. Do drop by the market if you can and maybe you'd like to book a stall to sell stuff or raise money for charity.

We'd love to hear from you if you have ideas for events or activities

COMMITTEE

None of what we do would happen without the goodwill of those on the committee who give their time, energy, experience & skills, often spending their own money making food, providing draw prizes etc. I really appreciate working with such a good team.

I'm sad that some Committee Members are retiring this year as they have contributed so much, though their reasons are very understandable,.

They are Sue & Martyn who have served on the Committee for over 25 years - nobody quite remembers - and now in retirement from work they want to be free to maximise use of their caravan. I'm pleased to say Sue has kindly offered to continue, for now, with Bingo and the Flower Shows

And Jan, who after 12 years service, four as Secretary, is also retiring, though you'll all be glad to know that she intends to continue her baked goods stall at the market.

Last AGM we asked for volunteers to give occasional help and a number of people put their names down and have since contributed in lots of ways that have made a real difference. If you would like to join that team please speak to me or a committee member - you do as much or as little as you wish.

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It wasn't necessary to hold a vote as there were 6 candidates for the 6 seats so they were returned unopposed they are: Claire Lewis, Margaret Harris, Simon Allanson Bailey, Mike Bostock, Stella Beavan, Erica Eden, the three representatives are Peter Heal [Parish Council], Delia Wainwright [WI], Tina Young [Parochial Church Council].

RESTORATION

This year we have been concentrating on works on the exterior of the building to try reduce damp & mildew. One issue is that the toilet floors inside are 6 inches below the outside ground level, to reduce the problem channels have been dug down as far as possible along the outside walls and cemented with ACOS drains.

Improving guttering, downspouts and drains

Hatch has been lowered with new shutters

Shutters in main hall & 4 high windows

Floor boards and joists have been repaired/replaced at north-west end

Walls at east & west end re-pointed with lime mortar and missing stones replaced, high windows re-sealed, wooden fascia replaced with wood look-alike black plastic.

Stonework at both ends at lower levels will be re-pointed when weather permits.

Inside - insulation of main false ceiling in the hall and reflective foil installed behind radiators

Soon new exterior door at east end and then a new fire-door at west end.

Last Saturday had professional deep clean of toilets

APPLICATION FOR A GRANT TO LOTTERY 'AWARDS FOR ALL'

To help us achieve our aims of making the hall warmer, more welcoming and thereby improving footfall

If successful work will include: Removing ceiling in Ladies toilet to be able to insulate new ceiling effectively and access electrics and replace wiring affected by rodent damage, try to rodent-proof area, larger access hatch.

Insulate walls where appropriate in toilets

Improving plumbing and extend piping from hot water tank in ladies to gents hand-basin remove existing small electric water heater

Ventilation & low powered background heating in toilets

Motion sensor for lighting in gents toilets

Lay flooring in toilets if moisture levels allow

All lighting to change to LED: strip lighting replaced, wall lights to be installed on north & south walls

Install additional sockets on north & south walls. Removal of hanging heaters.