

Chairmans Report – High Ercall Village Hall – April 2022

In the last year, we have been very happy that the Village Hall has been able to fully re-open following the Covid pandemic.

The community bar continues every Friday evening, and it has been very pleasing to see some new as well as the more regular faces.

We are now able to take a card as well as a cash payments which has increased the amount that we take per week.

High Ercall Village Hall has already hit challenging times, the cost of goods across the board have risen, resulting in the village hall having to pay more for our utilities as well as the stock for the bar.

Events/bookings:

The Pride and Joy event will re start in May and will run until the autumn of 2022. This has become a large vehicle event which has required careful planning, especially around numbers, parking and first aid cover.

We are planning a “Party in the Park” on 28th May 2022 to celebrate the Queens Jubilee. This will be a family day with entertainment and food which we hope will bring the community of High Ercall, and surrounding areas together.

Whilst some people remained cautious regarding Covid, the New Years Eve party was well attended and brought people of the village together to welcome in 2022.

We were pleased to show the football world cup and to welcome the Black Country Beatles to the village hall (2 years after the original booking!)

Regular bookings include fitness classes, indoor bowls, music minors and, of course the Parish Council.

We remain keen to provide a space for community groups as well as private parties.

Buildings/maintenance

We are currently exploring options for funding towards having the meeting room roof replaced.

The boiler was replaced to a more energy efficient one.

The aim of the committee is to upgrade the toilets including moving the disabled toilet away from the side of the stage. However, although we had raised enough funds to cover a previous quote, with the cost of trades people and materials the amount required has now been estimated to be significantly higher. We will therefore have to look at the option of raising further funds before this task can be undertaken.

Committee members

Whilst we have lost 3 committee members, we have been fortunate to recruit another 2. The post of Secretary remains vacant. We are currently exploring a replacement.

Thanks

Thanks go to the Parish Council for your ongoing support.

Without a dedicated committee we would not be able to continue to run this valuable community asset. I am very grateful to all of them.