

Farthinghoe Village Hall Report - Year to 31st March 2024

Maintenance items carried out this year have been :

- Stage curtains track replaced, due to damage incurred
- Skirting heating damage repaired and all costs reclaimed through insurance, only resulting in a small increase in the premium.
- Silver Birch tree removed in preparation for solar panels being fitted.

Main projects going forward are :

- Replacing the wooden sheds with a metal storage unit similar to the one installed by the School at the back of the Hall.
- Solar panels fitted on one side of the roof. Two quotes have been obtained and we are in the latter stages of the application to HS2 for funding.

Also general maintenance will take place during the summer, i.e. kitchen walls finishing, new curtain poles installed, tidying storage area and some repainting.

Regular hire use of the hall has nearly doubled in the last year, not including the School. One-off hire remains a mix from the village and outside, mainly childrens parties. Brackley Chamber Music Society also hired the hall for a concert and are putting doing another one in May.

The main running costs are still electricity and cleaning. The 5-year electrical check, including PAT testing, was carried out and there were only a few minor items recommended to be rectified, which were done.

The 150/200 club continues to contribute to the funds, but requires more members, and we are going to work on this in the next month or so.

The bank balances remain strong with total assets of around £30k. Funds are held in Lloyds for day to day running costs, with the remainder in Epworth Charity Cash Fund, currently paying around 5% interest.

The Village Show was back up and running last September, which was very successful, and we will be looking at replicating that again this year. We also held a very successful Social Evening and two Fashion Shows, which were well attended. Our committee members have increased by 4 this year, so we will be looking at putting together a programme of events.

We would like to take this opportunity of thanking the people who keep the hall running smoothly, specifically Rachael who keeps it clean and tidy, Keith who looks after the lawn and hedges, and Jenny Phipps for giving her time to keep the garden tidy.

The Village Hall Committee