

North Curry Village Hall

Annual Report for the year ending 31st December 2016

The Trustees present this report for the year ending 31st December 2016 which should be read in conjunction with the attached financial statement for the same period.

LEGAL STATUS. The Charity was established by Trust Deed dated to provide and maintain the hall for the benefit 1978, by which the North Curry Parish Council leased to the Trustees the land now occupied by the Village Hall and car park. The Charity Commission number is 276425.

OBJECTS, POLICIES AND ORGANISATION. The Trust is established of the inhabitants of North Curry, without distinction of religious, political or other opinions, with the object of improving the quality of life for the inhabitants.

The hall is available for hire by any individual or organisation in accordance with the hiring agreement and standard charges adopted. The fees are intended to generate enough income to meet ordinary expenditure in maintaining the hall. Specific appeals, fundraising and grants may provide for improvements if required.

COMMITTEE

The 2016 Executive Management Committee consists of five members, Michèle Carter (Chairman) , Michael Griffiths (Secretary), Jennie Vere (Treasurer), Fleur White (Booking Secretary) and David Walton, meeting on a monthly basis. On alternate months their numbers are augmented by 8 further elected or nominated Trustees who represent organisations using the Hall. (Jo Ash, John Attwood, Pat Curtis, Barbara Drakeford, Kathryn Jeanes, Di Keyar, Jenny Satchwell, and Tina Stodgell.)

REVIEW OF THE YEAR

The first stage car park work – capture and diversion of the spring - was carried out in January by Kingsley Beck, and the full resurfacing, including re-painting markings to include an extra disabled parking slot, was done in May by R. K. Bell.

Thanks are offered to North Curry Parish Council, who not only gave the Village Hall £3,000 towards the cost of re-surfacing the car park, but also set aside £700/year for the next five years. Thanks are also given to all the other organisations – including the Coffee Shop - and individuals who made donations.

The 2016 Booking Secretary and the Treasurer (Jenny Quin and Philip Marshall) had advised that they would not be standing for re-election at the AGM. Replacements were sought actively, but several suggested individuals declined these roles. No candidates were found, and no volunteers for either position were forthcoming at the 5th April 2016 AGM.

It was therefore decided that an Extraordinary Open Meeting would be held on 25th April in a final attempt to elect a Committee which included a Booking Secretary and a Treasurer, without which the Village Hall could not function.

“Village Hall in Peril” Flyers were delivered to every household in North Curry, and at the 25th April meeting Jennie Vere and Fleur White generously volunteered to serve as Treasurer and Booking Secretary respectively. Both were elected to the new 2016 Committee, and have fulfilled their roles excellently.

Adrian Tait had recommended that the sound quality for the Film Society (and others) would be improved by an Acoustic Curtain. One was installed (in early 2017), and further acoustic improvements are being actively investigated.

The main hall was painted in April, and Jenny Quinn arranged for 15-20 of her Lloyd Bank colleagues to paint the foyer during the school holidays as part of the bank’s volunteering scheme.

A successful clean-up day was held in June – thanks to all who contributed their time.

The Trustees decided against having a Christmas Coffee Morning last year, on the grounds that an event in the new year would be more successful and productive.

The Village Hall is an extremely busy place and Fleur White has been instrumental in drumming up new custom.

The solar panels have continued to perform successfully. The power output, on 6th March 2017 was 0.60 kW, the total energy generated has been 12645 kWh, and carbon emissions of 7207kgs have been avoided. In addition the Village Hall received £283.24 F.I.T money.

Sadly 2016 saw the departure of Joan Gubbin from the village, and from the Village Hall Committee. Her sterling and long-standing contributions to the Hall, and to the community as a whole are greatly appreciated and missed.

Michèle Carter (Chairman)