

Edgmond Village Hall Report

Parish Council Annual Meeting – Tuesday 11th April

Good Evening.

We now have an extension to the Village Hall.

A major project for these past 3 years, the extension is central to how the village hall will now be used and will enable the existing building to be improved with a minimum of disruption to hirers.

The extension boosts available floor area by over 40%

It allows for the hosting of multiple events at the same time.

The new rooms are adaptable in that they can be used together or separately.

They are economical to keep comfortable and they warm up very quickly.

The new rooms and the Kitchen all have easy access to the field so parties with an external element e.g. a bouncy castle will work better for hirers.

The new spacious Kitchen and 4 comfortable WC's improve the village hall facilities generally.

Necessarily, improvements to the existing building have been on hold while the extension has been in progress.

Despite this, private bookings have been on the increase and the village hall is being increasingly used for family functions including weddings and christenings. This type of use prompted us to appoint our own permanent licensee for the premises as the previous 12 annual Temporary Event Notices became a limiting factor.

Increased private hire has also reduced the need for us to stage organised events.

Our Events Team are now mainly focussed on supporting bookings and organising repeating events such as quizzes and table top sales.

Income has been strong over the past 3 years and the operating surplus has grown during this period thanks to the hard work of our Events Team and wider support.

The extension project, at over 5 times annual turnover, has been a large undertaking but we expect to end the financial year with increased reserves. We will also be applying for further grants as this will, if we are successful, bring improvement projects forward.

We have identified £40,000 worth of projects for: lighting, insulation, heating, decoration, WC's, car park, improved storage, bar/kitchen, p.a. system etc.

Our approach remains flexible so that we can adapt to changing needs and opportunities.

We are expecting the new facilities to increase both regular and private bookings -

- the new space effectively replaces existing rooms - but in a more flexible way.

We will be monitoring whether this new flexibility translates into a simple substitution of new for existing rooms, or whether the old spaces find new uses too.

In summary, the Village Hall remains financially secure with good reserves.

We hope to continue to be able to generate surplus funds for improvements (but we have to be realistic about the good will that we rely on for this to continue).

We look forward to being able to make further improvements to your village hall.

EVH offers its grateful thanks to amongst many others, Harper Adams University, HAU Students Union, Edgmond Lion, Edgmond Landscapes, Derek Longstaff.

Jeremy Bowman, Chair,
Edgmond Village Hall
registered charity 810315