

BARROW ON TRENT VILLAGE HALL ANNUAL REPORT 21/22

Our Village Hall Annual General meeting finally took place on the 13th September 2021, (late by only 16 months). During the Covid pandemic, the opening of the Village Hall followed Government guidelines. These were interpreted for us by ACRE, a support organisation called 'Action with Communities in Rural England'.

Slowly, things are returning to normal, and bookings are picking up. We were fortunate that Playgroup was able to continue throughout the pandemic, mutually beneficial for the children, parents, and Village Hall monies. However, we were grateful for numerous grants received from SDDC, allowing us to continue with the maintenance and upgrade programme of the Hall.

Our work over the past 2 years has been extensive, parquet floor has been sanded and resealed, carpets have been changed to better quality carpet tiles at the entrance, walkways, and disabled toilet area. New canvas prints of old photos of Barrow /surrounding area have been hung. The electrics have been upgraded, radiators replaced, and tamper proof controls added. The outside has been cleared of overgrown vegetation. We have secured the boundaries with new tarmac pathways and new 6-foot fencing panels installed to the left hand side /back area of the Hall. Large conifer trees were removed to install the fencing, this in turn has made the Hall now feel much lighter.

We have purchased small new tables, and contemporary folding chairs, stored on trollies for ease of movement. The hall receives a regular deep clean 3 times per year.

We have trimmed back the bushes located at the front of the hall, and our next task (hopefully to be completed during the summer holidays) we hope to add new fence post and matching 6-foot panels to smarten the frontage area. In the summer we are also hoping to upgrade the old disabled toilet and wash basin to make the area feel more modern and fresher.

We would like to thank David Stone for kindly auditing our 'books' David does this voluntarily, and we are very grateful for his help. We will also miss Graeme Webberley who has moved out of area, Graeme provided much needed practical and building expertise, guiding the Committee when making important decisions.

The Village Hall remains a village asset with competitive rates of hire, and we hope will be used for years to come.

Our current elected Committee members are: Jenny Quibell -Chair, Jenny Thomas -Vice Chair, Colleen March- Secretary, and Julia Stott- Treasurer.