

Lamyatt Village Hall

Annual Report to AGM 23 November 2022

Finance Report

This year has seen the welcome post-covid return of events and activities in the Village Hall with hall hire alone raising £2018.50. The events in total have shown a loss this year of £1374.61 but this is due to the Christmas Party and the Jubilee Celebrations which were village events that were not intended for profit. All other events throughout the year made a profit.

Donations have been greatly welcomed this year from Shakespeare Comes to Lamyatt, Wyke Farms and St. Mary and St. John Church, and various grants have also been received from Mendip District Council.

A solar panel installation grant for £2,000 has been received which has been a very welcome contribution towards the £7,148.26 installation costs. Another major expenditure has been the contribution of £675.00 made towards the installation of a defibrillator outside the Village Hall. Also, on the expenditure side we have of course still had the usual insurance, gas, water and licensing bills, although the business rates charged by Mendip last year of £7.34 have been refunded this year.

As reported last year timely readings of the electric meter are essential, even more so in the current financial times, as SSE are very keen on billing for large amounts on an estimated bill, taking the money by direct debit and then only afterwards offering a credit note. Hopefully the installation of the solar panels will make a big difference to costs going forward.

As at the end of September 2022 funds carried forward amounted to £43,284.40 which is slightly down on the September 2021 figure of £45,396.69.

At the current time the Village Hall Committee is in the process of applying for internet banking and, when this application has been accepted by the bank, will enable card payments to be made at events.

I would once again bring to the attention of Trustees that it is good practice to have a reserves policy. It is important to decide on an acceptable level of reserves to be kept and why it is needed, as generally unrestricted funds held by a charity should be spent and not held indefinitely.

Maintenance Report

Work carried out over the year (besides our usual checks and tidy ups):

Solar panels fitted

PAT testing

Repairs to the interior emergency lights & front security light.

Fire extinguishers serviced,

Fire control box serviced,

Installation of key the safe,

Installation of the defibrillator,

WiFi installed.

Massive progress made,

Ongoing issue with the solar panels still to be sorted. We are in correspondence with the firm to get it dealt with.

Work to be done in the next few months & into 2023, Outside lights for the steps on the patio & Handrails, Bar on wheels & the Autumn clean up once the leaves have mostly dropped. Dates will be announced Via social media and Lamyatt Mail.

Jubilee

This was the big event of the year to celebrate 75 years since the accession of Queen Elizabeth to the throne. It took the form of a three-day extravaganza where all the organisations within Lamyatt and Milton Clevedon combined their efforts.

On Thursday 6th June a spectacular bonfire beacon was lit at the trig point joining a network of other beacons throughout the country. It was preceded by a lantern procession led by the tall fellow in green, 'the Bullbeggar'.

The Saturday brought the village fete splendidly furnished with marquee and straw bales. Numerous traditional games and competitions were headlined by the country and western tributers 'The Johnsons'. Children played endlessly on the water slide and for the adults the alcohol flowed.

On Sunday it was the turn of the church who gave a special service of praise to her majesty.

Programming Group

This group promotes non-seasonal events and activities designed to be fun, good value for money and generating a surplus for maintaining the hall. The main VHMC organises and promotes traditional events at Christmas, Easter, Summer Fete etc.

The hall provides a lovely venue for one off events and regular classes. Pilates and Bridge groups have resumed in the hall and yoga classes both regular and workshops. Other regular classes can be trialled if residents want the benefit of weekly activities on their doorstep

The 2021/22 year was hampered by COVID, with many people still nervous about coming out to indoor events in the hall. COVID numbers climbed again to February 2022. This meant Burns Night (organised by the Joyces) was cancelled and film nights paused. Just one was held, in May 2022, with the charming Welsh valleys film Dream Horse.

Regular monthly coffee mornings (first Saturday of the month) restarted in autumn 2021 and ran through much of the 2022 year thanks to Zoe, Diane and Jen.

We ran 3 Take Art performances in the village hall, each restricted to 40 people and with a range of COVID precautions in place. All were sold out, excellent and enjoyed mainly by villagers their friends, families and some folk from local towns and villages

A Christmas Carol was a wonderful, seasonal solo play, performed by David Minns. It was very fitting in the run up to Christmas, with festive refreshments. In February Tango Calor, from Bristol, entertained us with tango music, singing and some impromptu dancing. The all-inclusive ticket with drinks & Argentinean food was a real hit with the audience. In April the internationally acclaimed guitar and violin duo John Etheridge and Chris Garrick gave a lovely performance. This showcased what a great small venue the hall can be with its excellent acoustics

In late July, the Musicians of Bremen, a charming, children's outdoor event with singing and puppets was kindly hosted by Simone and David in their beautiful garden.

Thanks to Nick and Romy; Simone and David; Helen and Paul, plus the many other helpers, for hosting these events and making sure they were viable. We could not have done this without subsidised rates from Take Art. This also enabled us, for the first time, to offer concessionary rates for those on low incomes

2022/23 Season

There are 2 Take Art show booked for this season: - 23 February, Burns and Doran Folk Duo; 23 March Holy Cow, the return of a brilliant Indian Story telling duo.

Film Nights have been arranged in November and a special children's Christmas movie on 10 December. Films for 2023 are open to suggestions. If anyone would like to choose a film and help/organise one of these, please let us know. Likewise, we have held very successful quiz nights and other one-off events in the past, so ideas and input to arrange more of these would be very welcome.

The Programming group consists of Hall Trustees and coopted villagers (Sylvia, Nick, Pat, Helen, Simone, Kelly Jonathan) new members are welcome from villagers keen to organise and promote events and activities

Lamyatt Defibrillator

A number of villagers felt it was important that we had a defibrillator in our village.

I met with Patrick Taylor who helped coordinate getting defibrillators for Batcombe and Westcombe and he recommended we approach the Community Heartbeat Trust for their support. We set up a 'Just Giving' fundraising page. Malcolm Frapple and others got the fundraising ball rolling and together with lots of generous donations raised £2320, enough to cover the cost of having our defibrillator.

We have a CPAD view semi-automatic defibrillator. It's been installed by a qualified electrician thanks to Kelly and Martin on the wall of the village hall. We are waiting for registration with the National Defibrillator Database and Ambulance Service then it will be LIVE!

Our contract with CHT provides:

- 10 years theft cover
- Annual service
- Replacement of consumables
- WEBnos governance (documents, recording etc...)
- Post-rescue counselling
- Awareness session

We have to carry out weekly and monthly testing and reporting which I am happy to do.

It's great to have this life saving machine to help protect our friends and loved ones, but we need as many people as possible familiar with how to use it, so we will arrange for an 'Awareness Session' on a weekday evening in the new year.

If you haven't yet seen it do watch this short film:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i4V-KYmtmFk>

