

**Chair's Report  
for  
Cornish Hall End Village Hall's Annual General Meeting  
on  
06 October 2022**

Welcome and thank you all for attending this Annual General Meeting of the CHE Village Hall.

This past year has been the Hall's first continuous period of being open and available since 2019, following the impact of the refurbishment works and then the pandemic. The use of the hall successfully resumed back in July '21 after it opened its doors once again following the ending of formal Covid-19 restrictions.

Despite some restrictions being re-imposed over the winter period, from December '21 to January '22 people's confidence in mixing and attending events has improved, and the use of the Hall has increased markedly from the period prior to its successful refurbishment in 2019.

This has been due to the raised profile of the hall through our website, email address, Facebook pages, advertising and to the positive feedback and word-of-mouth from those that have hired the hall; but also, and in no small part, due to the hard work of those who have volunteered to clean and keep the hall maintained and organise and support events, meetings etc. for the community.

To accord with our charitable status, the Village Hall is held in trust ".....for the use of inhabitants of Cornish Hall End, Essex and the neighbourhood, ..... for the use for meetings, lectures, and classes and for other forms of recreation and leisure-time occupation, with the object of improving the conditions of life of the said inhabitants." I believe, that over this past year, due to the hard work of the Trustees and other supporters of the Village Hall, we have done this very successfully. We, as Trustees, I am sure, shall continue to do all we can to encourage the Hall to be used aswell as putting our funds to good use by organising events for the benefit of Cornish Hall End.

In the past year, we have had a core of 12 people, not all Trustees, who have volunteered to help run and look after the hall. Their help and involvement is very much appreciated. I hope that the Parish Council, and in particular our ward councillors will continue with their support for the hall, offering their help as appropriate.

The hall continues to be in a sound financial position, and the last money from the funds allocated from the refurbishment funds was spent on a new more comfortable, seating, and a retractable screen for use with our digital projector. Sadly, our request for financial support from the Parish Council for our insurances was declined this year, and it remains the case that the Trustees have a responsibility to do all they can to ensure that the Hall does not run at a deficit and pays its way.

Our roof has had some maintenance work and the floor has needed some patch repairs; outside areas cleaned and cleared. Decoration and other standard maintenance are likely to be need this coming year.

The hall has also obtained a music license for the playing and performing of music, and I am pleased to say, that, since our last AGM, the hall held three of the Parish Council meetings; numerous birthday and other parties, have been enjoyed; regular community club meetings and their associated events, such as a gin tasting evening, have taken place; hall equipment has been hired out; there has been the formation of a new singing group which now meets regularly, and occasional use has been afforded to a children's karate club.

Hall events have included a well-attended heart defibrillator refresher course, successful Christmas and Spring fairs, and a fantastic free-to-all party to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, which included a picnic, village photograph, live music, games, and a beacon lighting – thank you to all those that made these events possible.

Further events already being planned by the Hall and the Community Club include a Halloween Quiz, a Caribbean food night, a film night and Christmas fair. I am sure that we shall be able continue with a full calendar of our community and other events in the coming year - with the recent, sad passing, of our Queen and the start of the new reign of King Charles III, a coronation celebration may well be on the horizon that will be another great community event!

I am pleased to report that use of the Hall continues to grow and help the community of Cornish Hall End, which is a credit to the management Trustees who look after the hall, and we look forward to another successful year.

*Peter Dacey  
Chair, CHE Village Hall Management Trustees  
06 October 2022*