

# Orwell Village Hall Management Committee



Information and bookings: [www.orwellvillagehall.com](http://www.orwellvillagehall.com)

The 26<sup>th</sup> October meeting of the Management Committee reflected the more normal times we seem to be living through at the moment in that pleasingly, discussions about Covid no longer took up a sizeable chunk of the meeting.

We continued to develop plans to upgrade the back room and were delighted to welcome a generous donation towards this project from the Orwell Players (TOPS) who are looking to disburse their reserves following their disbandment. In recognition, it was agreed that once upgraded, the room will officially be named in honour of TOPS.

Regular and ad-hoc bookings are picking up again as restrictions have eased and we were pleased to hear from our Treasurer that income from bookings now equals or exceeds running costs on a month-to-month basis. We continue to explore opportunities to better market the hall and all it offers and a useful starting point is the website, where clubs and societies are welcome to publicise their activities, perhaps in the hope of attracting new members.

County Broadband has confirmed that installation of full fibre broadband to the village hall is on its agenda – hopefully for early 2022. This will be welcome as we have experienced occasional problems with the current set-up, which was installed as a temporary measure, linked to the possibility of the hall serving as a Covid response centre. Fibre broadband, free in perpetuity, will be a great asset to the hall and will help us market it more widely, including for business use.

As mentioned in the September Bulletin a new model constitution issued by the Charity Commission was presented to the Committee. It was agreed that this has the potential to better meet the challenges of managing the hall in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. The Committee agreed to develop these proposals in partnership with the Parish Council – our Custodian Trustee – and to commission legal advice as necessary should the benefits of making the transition be agreed.

On behalf of the village hall management team may I end this last article of 2021 by wishing our fellow trustees, hirers and indeed the whole village a happy Christmas and a safe, healthy and happy New Year.

**Andrew Pulham, Secretary OVHMC**  
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