

Orwell Village Hall Management Committee



At its September meeting the Committee held its annual election to the officer posts. Andrew Pulham was re-elected as Secretary and Barry Sharman remains Vice Chairman as well as maintenance lead. In the absence of a candidate from among current trustees, Mark Collins agreed to combine the roles of Treasurer and Chair until a new Chair can be appointed. This arrangement is not sustainable in the longer term; therefore this update begins with an invitation. If you would like to play your part in the management and development of this much-loved village asset by offering your services as Chair, please contact me at the email below for more information.

At the same September meeting the Committee reviewed its maintenance and development priorities for the coming year. It was agreed that the Tops Room (formerly the small committee room) would be re-carpeted and new curtains purchased. Proposals for an upgrade to the stage area, including the purchase of new stage curtains were discussed and costings will be brought to a future meeting of the Committee. A new projection screen will be installed in the hall, to improve the experience of the Film Club and others wishing to use the projection facilities.

In response to a public request, the Committee agreed to the limited re-introduction of pictures in the hall where these have clear significance to the life of the village as a whole, such as the millennium and HM The Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebration. Aside for such exceptions, the Tops Room will remain the preferred location for the display of art works.

In view of ever-increasing costs, not least to in respect of oil and other utilities, the Committee agreed to raise its hire charges from January 2023. For most regular users such as village clubs and societies, this will amount to an increase of just one pound per session. This decision was not taken lightly, but the Trustees have a responsibility to ensure the ongoing financial viability of the hall.

On behalf of the village hall management team may I end this last article of 2022 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
www.orwellvillagehall.com