

Swanland Village Hall CIO (1180763) Chair's Report 2021

I have pleasure in presenting the Chair's report for the period 1st Jan 2021 to 31st December 2021.

This is the second but hopefully last Covid Year.

For the first three months the Village Hall continued to offer as much of a service as we could. However, except for children's classes, even when we were allowed to open, many people were reluctant to venture out.

There were significant changes to the Trustees running the Hall during the year, with Sheila Ireland handing over the Chair, the loss of long term secretary Colin Hill and Keith Carpenter deciding to set down his tool box for the last time and give up the Maintenance Role. Although Yvonne Dumsday did not have a specified role at the Hall, we and the Village Association are going to miss her organisations and knowledge of our village. Terry Phillips handed the Booking Secretary Role on to Chris Page. Russ Garbutt stepped forward to the Secretarial role for a while, but we are now looking for a new Secretary.

Taken with the changes to the Caretaking Staff before the pandemic, a huge amount of experience and corporate knowledge was lost during these changes, that we have sometimes struggled to replicate. However, with the persistence you would expect, people have worked together to keep everything working

New people have stepped forward to lend their knowledge and experience to the Village Hall, and still more are needed.

Throughout these changes the Hall has slowly come back to life, so that at the end of 2021 it feels almost as if everything is back to normal.

Some of the Hirers have decided not to return, which means that the Trustees are having to manage a lower income than normal. Plans are in place for this, and I am confident that few people will notice changes.

We look forward to getting back to normal as soon as possible.

Finally, I have to say a huge thank you to the old and new Trustees and Staff of the Hall for the amazing work that has been done bringing the Hall through this period.

Neil Bowerman

Chair