WEST FELTON VILLAGE HALL

We were pleased - and relieved – that the covid outbreak has not caused us to close again during the last 12 months. However, that does not mean all the groups who regularly use our hall have been meeting all the time – if at all - or with the same number of members. It is only in the last few months that bookings for one off events such as concerts, etc. have begun to resume – but even now some events that were to be held have been postponed because of the virus. Although we do keep a keen eye on our finances, we have been very fortunate in receiving grants from the Government and Shropshire Council during Covid, which has meant that we have not been put in a position where the future of the hall was in doubt. Normally, our main source of income is lettings, and we are pleased that slowly these are beginning to return to normal.

As a Committee we usually hold two fund raisers per year – our Easter and Christmas bingo. In December we were able to hold our first bingo night for 2 years, and we have just had our Easter bingo. Both of which were well supported – and in fact there were many young families who enjoyed the evening at Easter, and that was great to see.

To entertain our younger parishioners, we organised a Children’s Magic Show in March – but this had to be postponed because the magician had covid. However, we are pleased that Friday, 6th May will see Jack Dent here in the hall with a very excited audience of children. This is not a fund raising event – in fact last time we just about broke even - but feel this is a show to entertain a sector of our community that could easily be overlooked, and who have been greatly affected by the consequences of covid. Reflecting on the first children’s magic show a few years ago, earplugs may be required!

We continue to work towards keeping the hall in good order. Last year that included having an air pump fitted in the void under the hall’s wooden floor to help with air circulation, as there were signs of dry rot appearing; the pump should ensure that problem is now dealt with.

We continue to look for new people to join our committee. At the moment in particular we would like someone who is confident with social media to help us out.

On this topic I feel there is something I should say. There is a small group of people in the village who are on more than one committee etc. i.e. Carnival, Village Hall etc. and have been so for many years. One day in the future they will not want to carry on, but unless new people come forward to take over the roles, the Carnival, Village Hall etc. may not be able to continue. If you feel you would like to be involved, but perhaps do not know how you could help, please get in touch with us – at least one number is always in the village magazine. If you value the things that go on in this village, please be part of making sure they continue.

Christine Curtis

10.4.2022