

Clopton Village Hall Management Committee

Report to Clopton Annual Parish Meeting – May 2021

Overall situation

Due to the Covid 19 pandemic the Village Hall was closed in March 2020. It reopened in June 2020 meeting the Government's regulations only to be closed again until recently, April 2021, opening with restrictions.

During this period there was no income but outgoings such as insurance, and water and electricity standing charges continued. We also had to run the heating throughout the winter for frost protection and therefore had to buy heating oil.

Financial position

Summary taken from the treasurer's report.

Financial position- Due to the Covid19 restrictions on opening, in 2020 there was an excess of expenditure over income of £3000

2020 income of £1675.73 was only 20% of 2019s £8400 caused by the Covid restrictions.

The Halls management expenditure was dominated by an interim payment to the solicitor rearranging the lease.

General maintenance of the hall and grounds

The hall and grounds have been kept in good condition by several people who have generously given their time. Regular cutting of the grass all summer and trimming hedges in late summer gave first class care without using outside contractors.

Fire alarms, extinguishers and emergency lights have been checked by an electrical contractor, who also does PAT testing.

Other maintenance jobs, such as small repairs to the building fabric and small decorating jobs have been carried out by volunteers, adhering to Government safety regulations.

Outlook for the coming year

The hall will be used as the Clopton Polling Station for the local elections on Thursday 6 May. We are also receiving enquiries about hiring the hall after the election while still under some restrictions, and private gatherings from later in May when restrictions become fewer.

The hall will meet all safety regulations.

By September we hope our regular hirers will be using the hall.

The Management Committee

The original lease for the Village Hall expired last year and has been temporarily extended while a new lease has been under discussion between the Parish Council and the Management Committee. We understand that this work is almost complete.

The status of the hall was changed to that of Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) in November 2020.

This has tax and trustee liability advantages for the committee.

Our next meeting, the AGM, is on Tuesday 6th July in the Village Hall starting at 7.30. This is a public meeting open to all residents. We would also welcome anyone interested in joining the committee – new ideas are particularly welcome and membership does not take up a lot of time.