

**Harman's Cross Village Hall Management Committee**

Registered Charity No.1093137

Secretary: Martin Howell  
Whitewebs,  
Harmans Cross,  
Dorset. BH19 3DT

Chairman: Keith Fisher

Treasurer: Martyn Lloyd

**Report for: Worth Matravers Parish Council**

**Relating to: HARMANS CROSS VILLAGE HALL  
Activities for the period April 2014 to March 2015.**

The Village Hall continues to be used for a large variety of events. The Main Hall is heavily booked with little free capacity particularly in the evenings and weekend availability is scarce at times. The Meeting room is not so heavily used. Some groups have outgrown the capacity of the Meeting room and either moved to the main hall or elsewhere.

The Committee continues to monitor Village Hall facilities and services to ensure our hirers receive good value and to keep our running costs to a reasonable level whilst maintaining quality of service. During the year our Internet service has been changed to a high speed satellite service to enable the U3A computer groups to function with several persons logged on simultaneously. The Hall telephone service provider has been changed to BT. One of our major costs is electricity and our contract has now been switched a tariff with Scottish Power which will save a considerable sum over the 3 year fixed rate period. The hall rental charges are reviewed annually.

The Children's playground on the Village hall field was heavily used last year. A lot of this use can be attributed to visitors to the area enjoying the good weather. This facility is maintained by the Village hall and major repairs were necessary to the Zip Wire and Adult Ski Stepper equipment. After considerable research these repairs were effected by Village Hall personnel at a considerable saving on initial quoted repair costs. The Zip Wire repair was professionally inspected before returning to service.

The Residents Club now meets monthly as attendances had fallen to a low level on the regular Friday evening openings. Our monthly Movie Nights continue on the second Tuesday evening of the month with an average attendance of 59 in the last year. Each evening provides a considerable profit to hall funds after license costs etc are paid. There is also the profit from the Residents Club bar. The Music Concerts held 4 times a year have provided a very substantial income to hall funds. The small sub committee continue to find high quality performers and the concerts have provided a diverse selection of music. All of these events require a lot of effort by Village Hall personnel to enable them to take place.

Our Saturday morning "Stalls at the Hall" continue generally monthly but not on a regular basis due to Hall bookings. They are actively promoted to encourage local crafts and producers to have a sales table. They also provide a valuable community meeting place for a coffee and cake.

The Village Hall has become a centre of Purbeck University of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Age (U3A) activities with many clubs and monthly Meeting Points being held at Harmans Cross VH.

A one day First Aid course was organized for 12 personnel from both HXVH and local hiring groups. This was supported by WMPC. All attending passed the course and were awarded a certificate in Emergency First Aid valid for 3 years.

Unfortunately our Field Day on August Bank Holiday Monday 2014 was very seriously affected by the continuous rain which fell from early morning until late afternoon. Despite the very low attendance a small profit was made but Field Day is our major fund raising event of the year and the budget shortfall will affect our financial performance this year. Thanks are due to all of the organizing team and countless helpers who braved the conditions. To recoup some of the budget loss the Committee approved a further 2 wedding reception bookings for 2015 making 12 in total.

The well attended AGM was held at the end of October 2014. One long serving Trustee resigned but there was no volunteer prepared to replace this and other vacancies. The present Committee consists of 11 elected members and 1 co-opted. The Committee have been concerned for some time with the amount of business that has to be covered at each Committee meeting and the work that falls on the Committee, their spouses and a few other volunteer helpers to keep the hall running. To this end a number of sub groups are being formed to cover aspects such as, Social aspects,

Hall Maintenance, Grounds etc. The aim will be to attract helpers, who may not be prepared to join a committee, to join these groups and so spread the load.

It is sad to report that after many successful years the Village Club closed at its AGM in January 2015. This was due to there being insufficient people willing to join the Committee to continue to run the Club. Following this a meeting has been held, chaired by the Chairman of the VH Management Committee at which there was considerable support for a "Village Hall Community Group" to be formed to arrange a restricted programme of activities for this year. A further meeting is planned to progress this proposal. This new group would fall under the VH Management Committee Social Sub Group.

In conclusion the Committee would like to thank the Parish Council for their contributions and support throughout the year.

Keith Fisher  
Chairman