

23<sup>rd</sup> April 2018

## Annual Report

Another year has passed and we are here again, I must thank my fellow Trustees and the user groups who have responded positively to all requests for comment over the last year.

We are still working hard to maintain the hall in as good a condition as we can and have changed the £1-coin metres for the heating. We have refreshed and re-decorated the toilets and kitchen and following our annual fire audit have refreshed and fitted new fire signs where appropriate.

Following a request for a drop in their hire fees from one organisation, we discussed this in detail at our meeting and decided that we could not afford to drop hire fees due to the fact that our on-going costs are going up but, we did agree not to raise our hire fees this year due to the slightly higher number of bookings in the last 12 months.

We are still working with the New Village Hall Group, the Parrish Council and the Recreation Ground Trust to bring to fruition a new Village Memorial Hall for the benefit of all. This is an ongoing quest by the Trust, a lot of time and effort has been spent on this in the last 12 months. Thanks' must go to the Searle Trust who have granted us money to allow the legal aspects of a land transfer to progress without using money already raised for the construction of a new hall.

Although we cannot access major grants until the land swap agreement is in place. Village volunteers have been able to keep the funds coming in by organising a jumble sale and vintage fair. The Karen Howarth School of Dance have raised funds from various dance performances and the sale of tea and cakes.

Including grants from Stansted Airport and the Bridgefoot Trust we have raised in excess of £ 4,400 since January.

Once again, I must praise the community, who have supported the Trust in the past year and thank those who are working very hard to bring about a new memorial hall for the benefit of the whole community, as I stated last year.

**“Where there is a will, there is a way”**