

## **BAWDSEY VILLAGE HALL & RECREATION GROUND ANNUAL REPORT 2023-24**

### Children's Play area

After the deep clean of the surface carpet the previous year, the matting remains in a good state. Thanks also to Andy Alldred for sweeping it clean of leaves.

The Zip wire has been completely revamped with new wires and seat and take off staging at a cost £4500.

The wooden fence remains a problem as it is coming to the end of its life, and replacement will be in excess of £10000. We have applied for a grant to help with this. Thanks to Tina, (Parish Clerk) for pointing us in the right direction, and Suzi for doing all the form filling.

The wooden seat in the toddler's area was falling apart, and the family who put it there have been asked if they would like replace it.

### Tennis Courts

Still looking good after the courts refurbishing and repainting, with the new seats. Locks have been changed after the old ones were damaged, and new opening numbers applied, as we were getting people using the courts who had not paid.

Big thanks to Dianne Rouse for managing the booking fees.

### Recreation Ground

A new concrete base has been put down to take a new metal shed to house the fete tents, following the dismantling of the old score hut which has left us short of space for the fete equipment. Big thanks to Chris Roberts for helping with the removal.

A new base has been put down in front of the pavilion to take a seat donated by a family who lost a young Sapper in the last war in East Lane. A big thanks to Tina, (PC clerk), for organising this.

### Community Garden

With the end of the allotment agreement, it was decided to make the area into a Community Garden. 15'x10' Plots were offered to interested parties, and to date 9 have been taken up. The plot users have helped put up a new fence at the back of the garden to deter deer getting in. A farm gate, donated by Chris Roberts, is being put up to complete the fence area at the back of the hall's grassed area. Suzi is in charge of the community garden.

### Village Hall

We have continued with the policy of charging regular clubs with only the electrical costs they use, put in place to help them reestablish after the Covid lock down.

We have bought a new printer, and thanks to Peter Monk for giving us a double fridge to help with the Pop-Up-Pubs.

We have bought a number of fold-up chairs, to help to create more space in the hall, and the orange chairs have been taken to the pavilion for use at the fete.

Plans are in process of refurbishing the Village Hall.

## Charity Commission

New policies have been put in place for us to continue having Charity status.

Thanks to Suzi for all the work involved in doing this.

## Events

Pop-Up-Pubs continued through out the year. Including Halloween, New Years Eve, and the Christmas tree light up. Thanks to Rob Johnson for organising them.

Annual Garage Sale was again a successful village event, thanks to Pat for organising, and the ladies doing the teas.

Easter Egg hunt again took place, with hot cross buns enjoyed by all. A big thanks to Brenda and Sue for organising and cooking all the buns. Proceeds to UNICEF children's GATA fund.

Jumble Sale was disappointing through lack of attendance, and therefore will not take place next year.

Lastly the annual Fete. We do not make enough money to pay our expenses without running the Fete. I make no apology for actually making more than our day-to-day expenses, but it does allow us to spend money on improvements. I was very disappointed that we only had one new face at a pre fete meeting, but thankful that at least she came. I was equally so when apart from 2 committee members nobody turned up to get the Recreation Ground ready for the Fete at the work morning. Without the fete we can not survive unless we can think of a new way of making money, and without village people's help we cannot run the fete. So, if you want to keep the Village Hall, Recreation Ground and Memorial, please help and commit to helping on a stall, setting up, and especially clearing away. Contact Rawdon 411459

We also need Draw and Tombola prizes, cakes for the Tea and Cake tents. If they are before the day, please make sure they can be frozen. We also need Bric-a-brac, toys, and Plants.

Hopefully Draw tickets will be delivered to villagers with the monthly bulletin. Please deliver them back with the money to Rob Johnson Tailors House, (opposite the village hall) 411185, so they can be folded and made ready for the Draw at the end of the Fete. If you would like more tickets, contact Rob.

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A big thanks to our hard working Committee, Caroline treasurer, and Suzi Secretary.

Also, a big thank you to Richard Tricker, who will be leaving the Committee, for all he has done, and to Rob Johnson who also will coming off the committee, although he will continue with the Pop-Up-Pubs.

We therefore need people to come on the committee to help us continue the work for the village.

If you want to join us, and help the village to keep our facilities, please contact Rawdon 411459