

# EDGMOND VILLAGE HALL

**Registered Charity Number: 810315**

## **TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT 2014/15**

### **Standard Statement**

The Edgmond Village Hall charity was created in 1967 by a Deed of Declaration of Trust. It was specifically created for the use of *the 'inhabitants of Edgmond and the neighbourhood.... for meetings lectures and classes and for other forms of recreation and leisure-time occupation with the object of improving the conditions of life for the said inhabitants'*. A Supplemental Deed of Trust was accepted by the Charity Commission in 2008.

The freehold land on which the Hall is built covers an area of one acre, one road and thirteen perches (approximately 1.33 acres or 0.539 hectares). The freehold land was conveyed to the original trustees in 1920. In 1966 the land was transferred to new Holding Trustees, and in early 2009 the title to the land was transferred to the Official Custodian for Charities.

Information about the activities of the village hall and its financial history are available online at the Charity Commission.

The charity is run by a Management Committee of charity trustees. The Management Committee consists of up to 8 elected members, up to 3 co-opted members and one representative member for every community group listed in the second schedule of the 1967 Deed of Declaration of Trust (this schedule was updated 08 Jan 2008).

At the AGM all elected or representative members are required to sign a declaration indicating that they are *eligible & willing* to act as charity trustees for Edgmond Village Hall and to act in the trusts of the 1967 Deed and 2008 Supplemental Deed.

### **Annual Report**

The Village Hall continues to be busy providing facilities for many local groups, namely; WI, Mothers Union, The Karate Club, the Snooker Club & the Parish Council. We still are happily remaining a base for the Scout Group, the Brownies & Guides, Edgmond Toddler Group and have a new weekly booking of Table Tennis Club and 'Time to Sew', plus many other additional new events have been showcased for the first time. Unfortunately Tai Chi and Fitting fit had to stop due to lack of numbers.

This year has also seen the introduction of the very popular Afternoon Teas which are run every Thursday afternoon during the summer months. This event has risen over £1200 so far. Paul Wood donated the table and chairs so that the teas could be enjoyed outside as well as in.

## **Management of the Building and Grounds Update**

Alan Foster and his team have been very busy in the grounds of the Village Hall. The grass has been kept cut, the borders have been cleared and have uncovered plants and trees that were somewhat camouflaged before. Thank you to Roger Hudson who offered his advice and expertise with the trees and plants. The dangerous Poplar Tree was cut down and a nature trail has been landscaped into the grounds so the children can go and learn about nature. Two bird tables, a bird feeding station and a square of benches kindly donated by Harper Adams have been erected. Thank you to all who have helped and continue to help with all aspects of the gardens.

Edgmond Landscape has very kindly offered to cut the hedge in front of the Hall three times a year as a charitable donation.

The previous caretaker, Lester, was thanked for all his hard work but he retired this year. David Blinkhorne has become the new caretaker and has taken on the role with full enthusiasm.

## **Future Bookings, Program of Events, Fund Raising and Forecast**

Overall we have had a good innovative year peppered with great fresh ideas that have proved successful. "Lost the Plot" was great fun and we are even considering a Casino night this October. The support and dedication and willingness to make the Village Hall a success is truly uplifting. A huge thank you is extended to all.

A small Working Party has been formed to consider further new ideas, for example fetes, a pudding tasting evening and a New Year's Eve Party. This party is headed by Anne Green who must be thanked for all her hard work in organising events this year.

The first event of the year was the Hog Roast held in August. This was a big success and raised £2654.

Next came the Murder Mystery Evening again a big success in October and November saw the Ladies Pamper Evening both contributing well to funds.

The Christmas fayre was run this year for the first time in a while and although it was not a great money spinner it was a great festive afternoon.

The Cinema Club was set up but was not as a great success as hoped.

'Lost the Plot' came and performed in March and were very entertaining. The event raised £445. Thank you to Denise Bishop who organised this event in Anne's absent.

The last event of the year was the Gabriela Ukulele Evening. Her act was enjoyable and fun was had had by all who attended this event.

Thanks go to Dermot for doing the bookings this year. This task has been now handed over to Janis and Debbie Blinkhorne.

Last year the fees went up by 10% which did not go down well with the regular users of the hall. It was agreed in July to decrease the fees back to the original prices. It was felt that the decrease outweighed the possibility of losing user group to other venues.

The major achievement this year was obtaining the Community Pride Grant of £95,000. A huge thanks go out to everyone involved in making this happen, especially Jeremy Bowman and Paul Wood who put the application together with a very limited time scale. This Grant will be used to extend the hall and to ensure the safe guarding of children when using the hall.

New user groups this year have included 'Time to Sew' and The Table Tennis Club. An incentive was offered to any new user groups of two free sessions.

Richard Chesters who ran the 200 club retired this year on health grounds. The club is still going to be run but now by Ray Marriott.

### **Financial Details and Expenses**

Jim Coats took over from Julie Corfield on 6<sup>th</sup> August. Full details of the Treasures report will be available from Jim.

Donations came from Peter Gardener £100 for the projector screen, The Foresters £50 for the mower/grounds and £350 was raised from the Waitrose tokens.

Insurance was sourced by Sarah Wood who made a saving of almost £1000 on last year's quote.

### **Maintenance of the Building and Ongoing Projects (Building and Working Party)**

A Structural Engineer was instructed in July, 2014 to check the Hall roof structure and has reported that the structure is presently sufficient. Thank you to Peter Heath for organising this. There is a possibility of installing solar panels to reduce heating costs. The leak has been fixed over the bar and Wi-Fi is being trialled, though not fully successful regarding coverage of the Hall.

The Hall was opened for a discussion and a presentation was made during November to see what the village would like to do with the hall if the grant money was allocated to Edgmond Village Hall. From this the consensus was for the Field Room concept and the refurbishment of the existing structure. It was only later after given the full details of the grant it became clear that the grant money had to be used to extend the building in order to safe guard the children using the hall. With this information it was decided to fund raise to build the field room at a later date. The Village Hall walls have been surveyed. (Substantial timbers and bolt together sections of the building revealed with some areas of damp within the building).

## **Publicity**

The location for the village Defibrillator has been approved to be located at the Village Hall with many locals taking the training in order to use the equipment. Thanks go to Marion Keeping for organising this.

Local publications /newspapers have been contacted after successful events and posters used as and when necessary.

Flyers and the monthly newsletters have shown to be a success when advertising events and letting the Village know what the management committee are up to in the development of the hall and all the social activities which are ongoing.

Thank you to Georgina Edge who has been organising the publicity in the papers and magazines this year.