

Blackmore End Village Hall

Chairman's report for 2015

2015 was a productive year for the Hall and Hall house.

A much needed new kitchen was fitted in the house along with new appliances, new flooring, redecoration and a new utility area. Future improvements to the house will include new windows which we hope to start replacing in the next year when we have built up more funds.

As the main income for the hall is the house rent, it is important to make these improvements to keep the house attractive to tenants, thus generating a regular income to help maintain both the house and the hall.

Exciting times ahead, plans were drawn up for improvements to the Hall which included disabled access via a new ramp from the car park, new separate male and female toilets and a fully equipped disabled toilet, a new fitted kitchen will also be added. These improvements will be beneficial to everyone that uses the facilities and will also bring the hall up to date, with most of the improvements being a standard requirement to any new building.

Mark Taylor has worked hard to secure the grants needed to carry out the work from the following-

- Veolia Environmental Trust
- Braintree District Council Mi Community
- Essex County Council Community Initiatives Fund

As well as securing the funds Mark has been dealing with prospective contractors. We hope these works will begin in mid 2016.

The hall continues to be hired regularly for bowls, Busy Fingers, Keep Fit, Pilates, table tennis and Yoga as well as for parties and other social events.

Quiz Nights and village walks are well supported and popular.

We hope the new alterations will make the hall more attractive for people to hire.

I would like to thank everyone on the committee for their continued support. A big Thank You to David Foster for the marvellous job he does with the day to day running of the hall and to Mark Taylor for the fantastic job he did to secure the grants and also overseeing all the improvements to the new kitchen in the house.