

**13<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**REVIEW:**

**Paper work & Legal:**

Having recently reviewed the requirements to the best of my knowledge all our licences, certificates and policies are all in date and current. Please let me know if you think anything is outstanding.

**The Building & Grounds :**

Due to a continued lack of a decent Kitchen an improved Storage and Serving area at the rear of the hall has been installed by Geoff Hunt. In addition a dedicated electrical circuit has been installed to prevent the embarrassing power failures caused by all the catering equipment. Automatic lighting has been installed in the Clubroom to ensure the lights are not left on.

The Electrical testing highlighted two issues to be resolved. The cooker needs to be replaced and the Earthing system for the building needs to be reviewed and possibly revised.

The Audio Visual system has been improved by the addition of two large speakers with dedicated high quality wiring. The hearing Loop amplifier has recently been installed and we hope that this will provide a good quality system for the hard of hearing.

The trustees have met to discuss the facilities needed to update the Guildhall in response to the Village SOS initiative and an architect has been engaged to produce some outline ideas

**Events & Activities:**

Despite the poor facilities the use and popularity of the Guildhall is continues.

The Flicks programme from over the September to May period comprised of 9 films all of which were popular. The really popular part of the programme is the food and this is reflected in the attendance when there is no meal. Talking with a few other Flicks we are unique in consistently providing a meal and having a comparatively high attendance.

The Snowdrop Walk was again a great and growing success and along with the Bluebell Walk last year I said it grows in reputation well beyond Cound. This year reviewing the Flight Raffle stubs I found that people from many places in the West Midlands and as far afield as Lincoln had enjoyed Teas Soups and Cakes.

Due to the success of the Walks weekends St Peters Fete is close to becoming the second major high point of the year for visitor numbers to the Guildhall. This year the fete again was a success.

Single Private hire events have included the W.I., Shrewsbury Wives Group, Team Council and Christenings and a Funeral

There has been a series of meetings of The Cound District Craft Circle. This request has been an experiment to meet monthly, they have a register of 14 / 16 people that will and have attended. This has proved a success and at there end of year meeting they expressed the wish to continue next September with a modified format.

On five occasions the Guildhall has provided equipment for outside events PentaBus performance at Cound Hall ~ Leasows Garden Opening ~ Parks and Gardens Trust ~ and two private family events

the Parish Council uses the hall for its three summer meetings other political usage of the hall has been as a polling station in May the Election of the Police Commissioner and recently the EU Referendum There may be the possibility of another election before too long

In total the hall was in use on more than 35 days since last July. One more than last year and the trustees have not initiated any additional lectures, dances or other events this year proving the usage is increasing naturally by reputation.

The Guildhall is a great resource but would be nothing without the terrific support of the volunteers that assist with events and the core of people that do so much to make it all happen.

**THE FUTURE:**

The future Objectives & Project is to try and tackle the ongoing issue of inadequate Kitchen & Toilets To this end we have access to funds through Village SOS that enable us to use the services of an Architect and we are currently awaiting to hear from Matthew Franklin.

**CONCLUSION:**

The Guildhall with its limited facilities continues to be a well-used and essential resource for the Parish and further afield. My thanks to all that have supported, run, and participated in events throughout the past year.