

SUTTON MONTIS VILLAGE HALL

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT – 21 MAY 25

The Committee has been able to organise several events throughout the year. In June last year we started with a Village Hall Spruce Up whereby villagers joined the Committee in tidying up the Hall's outside surrounds and giving the inside a good Spring clean. Attendance was rewarded with suitable refreshments. In the summer months, particularly July and August, we tend not to organise events during the busy holiday period when many families are away. However, in September we organised a very successful McMillan Charity Coffee Morning and followed this up in November with an inaugural Village Litter Pick whereby four teams of volunteers were given routes around the Village tributary roads followed by the reward of light refreshments. Although deemed as a very successful event, sadly, around ten bin bags of litter were filled with bottles, cans, fast-food cartons and other miscellaneous detritus. In December we forgo a planned Village Hall Coffee Morning to join villagers in a 'Tune-up for a Christmas' sing-a-long in Holy Trinity Church supported by a plethora of mince pies and mulled wine. We saw the New Year in with well-attended Coffee Morning. Due to the success of November's inaugural Village Litter Pick we held another one in March which, again, was well-supported. Although the amount of litter picked was less than last time, the number of filled bin bags is still a sad reflection on the general public's attitude to litter. In May we organised a supper to commemorate the 80th Anniversary of VE Day (with sausage, mash and peas and a variety of delicious puddings) which was a great success and brought out a wide variety of 1940's dress. Moreover, the event enabled us to use Wessex Internet connection and Wi-Fi to support the evening with suitable 1940's music.

The fabric of the Hall is overall well-maintained. However, some of the internal wooden floor, whilst having been treated with Silkagard woodworm killer, has had to be replaced. On further inspection, it has been decided that the whole floor needs to be replaced. Therefore, a sub-committee has been formed to take this forward. As the Hall is a Grade II listed building we have been advised by Somerset County Council that we will need listed-building consent. Moreover, they will not accept our hand-drawn diagrams so we will need to enlist the help of Historic Building Conservation Consultants (eg. Philip Hughes Associates – Wincanton). The Hall furniture was recently supplemented by a generous donation of ten good-quality office chairs which will supplement our existing holdings. A full list of Hall usage by other users will be provide by the Bookings Secretary.

Lastly, I would like to take this opportunity of thanking my fellow Committee members for all their help throughout the last year and welcome their continued support as we strive to make the Hall, once again, a focal point for a variety of community activities.

Thank you.

Philip Scrancher

Chairman

Sutton Montis Village Hall Committee

19 May 25