

**Brookthorpe Village Hall Committee  
Annual Meeting 2021**

**Secretary's Report**

Since my previous report which was circulated in June of last year, there is unsurprisingly little to comment on in the way of activity.

The committee has continued to meet albeit virtually. Most of the discussion has been concerned about preserving the fabric of the building and keeping the grounds clean & tidy. We are indebted to Paul Gaze who has ensured everything has been well maintained carrying out regular checks and many d-i-y tasks. Inside the hall, sanitisers have been installed to comply with Covid requirements.

Outside, the lawns particularly at the rear have been kept well and parts have been re-seeded which has in effect created more space for activities.

Alison Phillips our cleaner has also continued to work all through the pandemic for which we are grateful.

Work on the refurbished phonebox was completed by Eric Hibbert and Paul Gaze and it now houses the defibrillator and a small collection of paperbacks. Thanks to them for a job well done.

There was some limited activity at Halloween aimed at the children and Christmas lighting and decoration was put up for the festive season. Vicky Smart, one of the committee who organised this will elaborate during the meeting.

Lisa Smith, who had served on the committee for 4 years stepped down during the year. Sadly we have to report that Eileen Browne, the yoga tutor for many years died last July after a long illness. There is the possibility that yoga sessions will resume as someone has expressed interest in holding classes.

Looking to the future, the committee has decided that the hall will re-open from June 21<sup>st</sup>. the date recommended by the Government for the lifting of the remaining restrictions. We obviously hope that our previous hirers will feel able to return to holding their various activities.

Understandably the project to raise funds for an extension has been placed on hold during the pandemic. Eric Hibbert our Chairman will comment in more detail in his report.

Thanks as always to fellow committee members Lauren Amon, Amanda Hendry, Lynda King and Vicki Smart, to Annie Gaze who keeps the finances in good order and provides regular up-dated information and finally to Chairman Eric Hibbert who "keeps the flag flying".

When I took on the role of Secretary in October 2009 I had in mind to fulfil 10 years. Obviously in these rather uncertain times things have not gone quite to plan. However I am giving notice that I intend to step down at the Annual Meeting in 2022. Hopefully this will allow time for a successor to be found.

Nigel Bone  
Secretary  
April 2021