

Mendlesham Community Centre Charity Chairs and Financial report for the AGM 16.5.18

Chairs report:

Further to the break in and incidents of antisocial behaviour as reported at last years AGM, working in partnership with Mendlesham Primary School a new CCTV and improved security lighting was installed. The Community Centre share of this work was paid for by Mendlesham Parish Council at a cost of £5647.

New external doors and Main Hall windows were also replaced as part of a grant obtained by Mendlesham Primary School, which has greatly improved the security of the premises.

We have successfully recruited a new person to undertake a role of Mendlesham Community Centre Coordinator (previously the Booking Secretary) and have also restructured our hire fees from 1.9.18, with the aim of increasing bookings and income.

Fire improvement works to be completed by September 2018 have been agreed, with much work to be undertaken via another Mendlesham School grant. There will be some expenditure for Small Hall works to bring the entire building to the same standard.

We were grateful to receive a donation of chairs from Mid Suffolk District Council further to the closure of their Needham Market Offices. We have also installed another cooker primarily for use by the cookery club.

Mendlesham Community Centre Charity, Financial Accounts for the year ending 31.3.18:

The year end 31.3.18 shows a decline with a year end figure of £10463 compared to the year end 31.3.16 £12867 and year end 31.3.17 £12001.

We have no bad debts, income is being collected when due and we are up to date with Utility payments and PRS for music subscriptions.

However despite continuing support from Mendlesham Community Council with an annual grant of £2k, we have spent £22377 (£21740) against an income of £20838 (20874).

Whilst part of these costs have included the costs the charity had to cover for installation of the new doors (security alarm amendments were some £1,000) and we have bought the cooker, this cannot be seen as a good trend.

The financial consequences of the agreed hire fee structure from 1st September 2018 will need careful and prompt reviews to ensure that the object of increasing income against expenditure is working in line with the aims of this review, rather than a further deteriorating trend.

The grant from the Community Council continues to support the viability of the building but there needs to be a move away from reliance on this grant as it is not

guaranteed.

Cllr Exley and Messrs Gardiner, Downie and Whomes have continued to help with maintenance repairs which make a huge difference to the finances and our new Co ordinator Rachel Brown is already providing an excellent service to hirers as first point of contact for the Community Centre. Thank you.

The Community Centre Charity holds ordinary meetings monthly which are open to the public so if you have any issues that need discussing, either speak with Rachel or Sharon or come to a charity meeting.