

Mendlesham Community Centre Charity Chairs and Financial report for the AGM 17.5.17

Chairs report:

We continue to receive donations from the Mendlesham Social Club fundraising activities and the Cookery Club. Not only do they provide this financial support, the social club provides events for the community to come together and the Cookery Club educational/Lifeskills for the children. Thank you to everyone who organises, helps and supports these groups.

This pot of money has been used to replace the Main Hall fridge and microwave and replacement parts for the showers.

With the help of volunteers we have also decorated the Main Hall kitchen. We have also replaced the Small Hall boiler with a heating system that is more user friendly and efficient.

On a less positive note, in September 16, we experienced a break in and more recently there have been incidents of antisocial behaviour which require volunteers to clean up and put right matters such as broken glass, items moved from their correct location with more recently the damage becoming more serious.

Unfortunately we are now in a position whereby we will need to focus our efforts and money on updating security to protect what we have, rather than the much nicer position of providing additional services and facilities.

This year we have experienced issues with regard to regular payment of hire fees for a particular organization which has taken considerable time to resolve. The outstanding debt was paid in full just before the end of this financial year and arrangements put in place with the organisation to prevent a debt accruing in the future.

The need to update the administration arrangements for operating a building with different parts under different ownerships and use has been identified. An informal arrangement has been agreed between Mendlesham Primary School and Mendlesham Community Centre Charity with the need to now consider more formal legal documents plus insurance responsibilities. Please note however, that these are arrangements covering the maintenance and use of the building by clarifying timings of different use and sharing of responsibilities. There is no change to the Community Centre Charity objectives, ownership or third party interest in any assets or liabilities.

Mendlesham Community Centre Charity, Financial Accounts for the year ending 31.3.17:

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

Please note that this could have been a very different situation if what was looking as becoming a bad debt of just under £5k, had not been received at end of the financial year. New arrangements have been put in place to ensure a debt of this amount does not arise again.

We are now 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, fundraising by the Mendlesham Cookery Club and R & J Leisure, our new bar managers/Mendlesham Social Club, we still have spent £21740 against an income of £20874.

The grant from the Community Council continues to support the viability of the building and if possible, there needs to be a move away from reliance on this grant.

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 Booking Secretary, Louise Matthews provides 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 Louise or Sharon or come to a charity meeting.