

REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF HADDENHAM VILLAGE HALL
SOCIAL CENTRE USER GROUP COMMITTEE
TO THE
ANNUAL PARISH MEETING ON FRIDAY 9th May 2014
ANNUAL REPORT – 2013/14

This report represents an update of the work carried out by the Executive Committee of the User Group of the Haddenham Village Hall Social Centre since the Annual Parish Meeting held in 2013.

At last years AGM I resigned as chairman of the above and Bill Rhodes was appointed the new chairman. Unfortunately Bill had to resign earlier this year and I once again accepted the invitation to become chairman on a temporary basis following Bill's resignation. Hence this report is from me again and I would like to take tis opportunity to thank Bill for all the work he did on behalf of the Village Hall during his tenure. It was considerable.

Activities continue to flourish and the hall is regularly used by village organisations and the web site (<http://www.bucksinfo.net/haddenham-vh/>), continues to show the level of activities within the Village Hall.

Having carefully built up funds over the last few years, the Committee felt they were in a position to continue making further improvements following last year's repainting of the Main Hall and the new flooring both in the Main Hall and the Walter Rose Room and we now have new toilets in the foyer for the Main Hall. Further improvements include the purchase of a fridge/ freezer for the Main Hall and a new cooker for the Walter Rose room.

Unplanned improvements include the replacement of the boiler for the Walter Rose room following the boiler failure earlier this year. This boiler has given us considerable problems over the years and we now look forward to trouble free heating within the Walter Rose room.

A cleaning contract with a new contractor was agreed for the regular cleaning of the Village Hall. We understand that this has proved satisfactory for most of our users.

We are pleased that the agreement for the regular use of the Walter Rose Room by Bucks County Council's Children Centre continues although we are always mindful that services organised through Bucks County Council may not be on a permanent basis. Following complaints of the untidiness of the storage area used by Bucks County Council Children's Centre, a separate purpose built storage area has been created within the Walter Rose room.

The Red Cross ceased activities in March last year, the Fremantle Trust took over but have now confirmed that they will not be operating within the Village Hall complex after June this year. We await further communications from Bucks County Council to ascertain the future of a day centre within the Village Hall.

Our thanks also go to the Parish Council for their continued support in the areas for which they are responsible which this year have also included external rendering to the Hall to assist reduction in heat loss and the repair of the Hall following the car accident.

The way forward - Our regular users firmly believe that building a new Village Hall on a different site is not the way and that the Village Hall should remain in the centre of the Village, preferably on the current site in the centre of the village and depending on funding, should either be completely refurbished or rebuilt. The size should not be diminished.

Our AGM is to be held in the lounge of the Village Hall on Wednesday 28th May and all are welcome.

JOHN HEYDON – Chairman