

Thornborough Village Hall



Thornborough Village Hall Annual Review 2018-19

Prime Objective:

The village hall management committee have met their prime objective of keeping Thornborough Village Hall open for use by villagers and village organisations.

Income:

Income from hiring the hall falls far short of the routine running costs of the hall. Our 59 club now brings income of less than £2000, and although we do get occasional new members, we are gradually losing members who move away or depart this earth. New Thornborough residents are generally not interested in supporting the village hall by signing up.

The village hall committee are very grateful for the annual £1000 grant from the parish council, without which we would not be able to keep the hall open. Even with this grant and the income from the 59 Club, we will make a bigger loss than previously, due mainly to recent huge electricity bills.

Thornborough School:

The hall has a hire agreement with the school for one hour lunchtime use until 15th July 2019. We have no arrangement after that date, which is two weeks before the end of term for the current school year.

We have had discussions with the new head and chair of governors about a new arrangement thereafter. However there is a problem in that the school have started to use the hall like another room in the school, outside the terms of the rental agreement, which means that our electricity costs have rocketed far in excess of the termly rental. Consequently the village hall have made a huge loss on this particular rental in the last year. In addition the wear and tear on the building, especially the floor, has noticeably increased which will lead to further expense.

Therefore whether the school can continue to use the village hall daily other than lunchtimes next term depends on their budget being able to cover the higher cost of a new revised long-term (but discounted) termly rental agreement, or perhaps to revert to renting it ad-hoc as required at normal hire rates.

Wednesday Outreach Post Office & Community Café:

The PO has been open most Wednesdays 2:30p.m. to 4:30p.m. and has continued with a new rental agreement for another year. The P.O. rental allows the hall to be used for the very popular community café which predominantly acts as a fundraiser for the school.

New Chairs:

We are very grateful to the Oddfellows in Buckingham who donated 60 chairs to the village hall when the Oddfellows Hall in Well Street was closed. These chairs are in reasonably good condition and a much more comfortable option for hirers than the plastic chairs.

Booking Secretary:

Our bookings secretary Sue Kenyon continues to do an excellent job, requiring little or no work from the committee. Hall lettings have a few regulars like the two bands that practice there, WI, two Yoga sessions on Wednesdays, monthly football meetings and a smattering of parties, etc. Look out for a new regular hirer soon giving lectures on dog training.

Thanks to the Committee:

Excellent work is done behind the scenes by honorary secretary Cath Sayer, David Wise as honorary treasurer, Steve Wilkins as vice chairman and Tracy Sapwell as honorary examiner of accounts.

Bernard Garbe, Thornborough Village Hall Committee Chairman

For bookings please contact Sue Kenyon on 07704 730466 (call or text anytime), or call 01280 824783 (between 5:00 and 8:00 p.m.)

Secretary: Cath Sayer (csayer1@talktalk.net)