

Ashfield Community Council Annual Report

Chair: Sam Thomas

Treasurer: Geoff Henney

Secretary: Simon Garrett

Council members: Andy Pitts, Graham Greene, Mike Harrison, Monica Brown, Ryland Thomas, Richard Ellis.

2022-2023 has thankfully seen a return to a more normal way of life since the lifting of restrictions and therefore the Community Council have been able to hold our regular events and meetings once again. The renovations from the previous year have been well received by residents of Ashfield and have hopefully secured the hall's future for the foreseeable future. Unfortunately, prior to the repairs being carried out, we had to remove the trees at the back of the hall, however we are pleased to report that we have now planted a range of fruit and flowering trees in the garden area, this time being much further away from the hall so not to cause any damage to the hall in the future. Excluding minor maintenance there has been no need for any repairs in the last 12 months. Nevertheless, we are still aware that the roof may need to be repaired or even replaced at some point in the future and so we are careful to maintain a reserve of money to fund this if and when needed.

Events

It has been a busy year, and lovely to see so many people enjoying the use of the hall and attending a range of events once again.

- 4th June was the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, which we celebrated with a BBQ and a tree planting ceremony. Robert Grimsey gave a speech and we sang the National Anthem.
- 12th August was a Pop up Pub evening with music provided by villagers Ruth and Des Hart.
- 7th October we held a Fish and Chip night, with Graham Greene collecting orders and music again from Ruth and Des.
- 19th November Richard and Petra Ellis organised a Wine Tasting Evening with a selection of wines and supper.
- 3rd December was the annual Christmas Social, the bar was open and residents brought along a dish to share.
- 11th December we held a Christmas coffee morning with a selection of mince pies, cakes and scones generously provided by residents of the village.
- 28th January was another Pop up Pub evening and was once again well attended.

Throughout the year we have also welcomed the cyclists for tea, coffee and a selection of cakes again provided most generously by residents of Ashfield, and my thanks go to them for this continued support.

The hall has also been used for several private events such as parties and classes. The wreath making class on the 26th and 27th of November was well attended and a fortnightly stained glass course also now runs at the hall. We have also been pleased to see the use of hall once again for church functions and the Women's group.

Finances

This year there was a surplus of income over expenditure of £955 compared with £2350 in the previous year. However, the levels of income and expenditure were significantly lower this year. No grants of any description were received.

To summarise the treasurer's report, income was generated via an increase in lettings of the hall, the events as listed previously and the cyclists visits. Expenditure this year has covered the usual maintenance and purchasing costs. In terms of electricity we are pleased that a fixed term contract has meant we have been spared the worst of the price hikes until July 2023, and our insurance has been re-calculated and has surprisingly cost less this year due to a change in contract.

Please see the Treasurer's full report and accounts for a more detailed breakdown of income and expenditure for 2022-2023.

Finally, I would just like to add my thanks to all the members of the committee who work hard during the year with the running, maintenance of the hall and the planning and organising of events. Likewise, I would also like to thank all the volunteers and residents of Ashfield who support us and our events in various ways throughout the year.

Sam Thomas.

Chair

14/4/23