

Farthinghoe Village Hall Report

Year to 31st March 2025

Improvements carried out this year :

Solar panels have been fitted to one side of the roof and are now successfully generating sufficient electricity for the hall's needs, with excess being sold to the grid, which is enabling us to provide a much more comfortable temperature in the hall.

A new storage container is being delivered on Wednesday 16th April, which will replace the two sheds taken down during the Christmas break and provide a much safer storage facility for the marquees (and stop the mice feeding off them). The sheds were broken into on one occasion during the winter, but thankfully nothing was taken.

The new curtain rails were installed and panelling in the kitchen finished ready for painting.

Future Improvements will include :

A noticeboard to go on the outside wall combining a new Farthinghoe Village Hall sign to enable notices to be displayed advertising events taking place at the hall. A large amount of painting needs to be done and hopefully we can get some of this completed during the summer.

Hirers

Income from Regular bookings has increased this year, with two new regular hirers. One-off hire remains strong, both from the village and outside, mainly childrens parties. Three wedding packages have been booked for this year and two next year, with deposits paid.

Events

Various events were organised during the year including the Village Show at the end of September, which despite the weather was very successful, and planning is in progress for this year. There was a Panto in December, enjoyed by all who attended, 80+ tickets were sold for the concert by Swing From Paris at the end of March, which was outstanding, we also held another Fashion Show in April, which again proved very popular and Brackley Chamber Music Society have again hired the hall for a concert in May

General

The main running costs remain electricity, cleaning and garden maintenance. The 150/200 club continues to contribute to the funds, but requires more members, and we are going to work on this in the next month or so. The bank balances remain strong with total assets of around £23k. Funds are held in Lloyds for day to day running costs, with the remainder in Epworth Charity Cash Fund, currently paying around 5% interest.

We would like to take this opportunity of thanking the people who keep the hall running smoothly, specifically Rachael who keeps it clean and tidy, Keith who looks after the lawn and hedges, and Jenny Phipps for giving her time to keep the garden tidy. We would also like to give special thanks to Jane & Sid Atkins, who always offer to help when we need "an extra pair of hands".

The Village Hall Committee