**TEFFONT VILLAGE HALL REPORT 2022**

2022 was the first full year that Teffont Village Hall has been open since the pandemic, and it has been a successful year. The makeup of the committee is largely unchanged from last year, with Jeremy Ames as our wonderfully efficient Treasurer, Catherine Bernard as Secretary and Booking Clerk, and Rosemary Pegrum in charge of running the Village Community Café. Joss Wood and Emma Brown run most of the evening events in the Hall. Fiona Homan has joined the committee, and we are very sad indeed that Pauline Maidment is leaving.

The purpose of any village hall is to provide a meeting place for its village, an amenity for all villagers to be able to use. Providing such an amenity does not come cheap, so the Teffont Village Hall Management Committee raises funds through the year to cover the costs of making the facility available for the community.  In 2022 the committee raised £3500; we also benefited from the second tranche of Government Covid grants amounting to just under £2,700, so that in 2022 the Village Hall funds had a surplus of £1,000.

The Community Café runs every Saturday morning throughout the year except for over Christmas and the month of August. Rosemary Pegrum masterminds the running and provisioning of the café, the list of volunteers and the two paid members of staff who work alternate weeks. In 2022 the café raised approximately £1300, but this is absolutely not the point of it: it provides a regular meeting place for many of the older members of the community, where they can sit in comfort and warmth and chat to their friends and neighbours. On Thursday afternoons in December, when the cost of heating became even more expensive, the Hall was open to provide a warm space for villagers, with tea, coffee and biscuits available. In a publess, shopless village like Teffont, the Community Café is a real asset.

Catherine Bernard runs bookings for the hire of the Village Hall. Our regular bookings have continued this past year: Dorset Italian, the Garden Club and of course the Parish Council all provide regular, predictable income. We also have had repeat bookings from an appreciative cyclists’ group, a dog “sniffing

activity” (!) group and the fly fishermen among others, plus the occasional

children’s party booking. All in all, the hire of the Village Hall raised £1400 in 2022.

Evening events in the Village Hall, under the flag of The Pig & Whistle pop-up pub, kicked off in February with a Fish and Chips night, a roaring success. Catherine and Michael Bernard set fiendish questions for a curry quiz night in April. There have been several plain pub nights, all of which have been well attended, with the final one after the Village Carol Service before Christmas, where the Hall was completely packed. Emma Brown has kept the bar well stocked, and she and Joss Wood ran most of these events, decorating the Hall and making it even more welcoming. All these events raised around £800.

It must be stressed that Teffont Village Hall Management Committee puts events on in the Hall to bring the village together as a community: the aim is to have fun, not to make money. The fact that we have a £1000 surplus in 2022, a contingency fund in case of disaster, is very much the icing on the cake.