ATWORTH VILLAGE HALL AND RECREATION GROUND

CHARITY NUMBER 305461

CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT 2013

The Atworth Village Hall and Recreation Ground had many changes in the past year. The previous chairman decided to leave the committee, Derek Edwards who agreed to be a temporary treasurer when Heather Crolley stood down, finally handed over the books to Morven Eastlaugh who has now carried out this role for several months. We also had a few younger members join the committee.

Although the hall is still retaining most of the regular users we have seen a dramatic recline in the number of occasional users mainly parties etc. There was to have been an Atworth Got Talent completion in September but this had to be cancelled due to lack of participants.

At the early part of 2013, the committee agreed to extend the Five Year rolling Plan. We currently have twenty items listed on this plan. This plan is evolving as more requirements are being identified. The first two items on the plan will be rolled out in 2014 when the inside and outside of the hall will be re-decorated

At the end of 2012 the first ROSPA report was commissioned after about twelve years. In 2013 the main faults was identified, and it was agreed to start carrying out the work to rectify some of the faults. In late summer / early autumn the committee agreed to expand the pits under the slide, the climbing frame and the area where a previous piece of equipment was removed as it was dangerous. This was carried out to update the dimensions and depth of the required areas to current legislation with additional Children's Play bark. These pits were filled with new Play Bark supplied by Melcourt at a much reduced price. The weed control material, which was installed underneath the Play Bark, was largely supplied free of charge by Whitehall Garden Centre and we thank both companies for all their help and support. It was also decided at the same time to refresh many of the play equipment from a faded black colour to more vibrant colours of red and blue. Some of this was carried out by a few committee members one Sunday morning the remainder was completed mostly by John Day who I am very grateful. At the same time we raised the level of soil around the metal swing and basketball unit to eliminate the trip hazards. With new chain links on the swings, new toddler seats and new seats on the wooden swing together with securing the ladder to the slide this completed the first part of the changes required.

More work is still needed e.g. new matting under the swings and agility trial, new equipment to replace the piece of equipment that was removed and to complete the painting of the toddler swing and the basketball unit together with installing a new net on the basketball unit. Additional equipment is required as and when resources are available. I would also like to thank John Day for his time and effort in fixing items of the Children's equipment that needed to be repaired throughout the year.

ATWORTH VILLAGE HALL AND RECREATION GROUND

CHARITY NUMBER 305461

CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT 2013

The grass cutting was greatly improved this year due to partly to the good weather and partly due to better communications with the contractor. The contractor agreed during the year to provide a lower cut over the football pitch. During the year the committee was asked to provide running track to a young lady. Unfortunately we could not provide this running track but the grass cutter was asked and agreed to cut an area around the large football pitch at a very low cut. All additional requests, was carried out by the grass cutter contractor without any additional cost to the Parish Council. I would like to thank Derek Edwards for not only painting the tennis court but also the basketball pitch. I would also like to thank him for his vigilante monitoring of the timing of the grass cutting and sending me various e-mails when the grass was not cut on time or not in his views cut to spec and to his satisfaction. This not only kept me on my toes but it also made for a better managed recreation ground.

On the finance front, we held a Football Tournament in September, which worked very well and was enjoyed by all. The WI provided the home made cakes and sold teas coffee etc. during the day. My thanks go out to all involved to make this day a success. We raised a sum of £318 on the day, half of which was made by the sell of cake and drinks.

Additional park benches identified last year were not installed during 2013 but are finally due to be installed in 2014. Although we have money in the bank, with the reduction of parties in the hall, in 2013 our projected expenditure in 2014 is higher than the income. Therefore the accounts for the Village Hall and Recreation Ground, is not sustainable and therefore hiring charges will have to go up. The Charity has to be run as a business as well as a community property. We will therefore have to be more aggressive in fund raising, exploring sponsorship and donation opportunities, marketing the hall better and a need to hire out the hall as much as possible

In 2014 the committee is planning a Centenary Fete to celebrate the 100-year since the hall was opened.

Finally I would like to thank my fellow trustees for all their help and support in aid of the Charity during the year.

Sign by Chairman _____