

## **Lympstone Village Hall - 2017 review**

This report covers the calendar and financial year 2017 and accompanies the formal report and accounts for the year.

The hall had another good year. We can measure success in a number of ways:

### **Serving the community**

The hall hosted a very wide range of community events including plays, music, films, talks and the village art and garden shows. The hall was used for many private parties, celebrations and weddings, with guests from christenings to 80<sup>th</sup> birthdays, and many occasions with 100+ guests. It was used every term day by the primary school and preschool and served as the home of the tennis club, and twice as the village polling station. The hall was used for 5000 hours in the year.

### **Paying its way**

The hall operated without public subsidy, meeting all its operating costs and producing a surplus to pay for renewals and improvements. Its overall revenue – at £46,368 – was the highest ever, despite 2017 being the third year of prices being held.

### **Providing quality facilities**

The hall is one of the best equipped in Devon, and funds a programme of continuing investment. We have strengthened our quality during the year by appointing Miles Freeman as premises manager, with a mandate to operate a rigorous regime of checks and tests to ensure our full compliance with the many legal safety and quality requirements.

### **Providing good service to hirers**

Michael Wilkes continued to provide an excellent, efficient and responsive booking and invoicing service, issuing 193 invoices (many covering multiple sessions). Despite being an exceptionally busy hall, we have accommodated virtually every request made.

### **Meeting unexpected needs**

A feature of the year was the delay to building and opening the new preschool building. We were able to offer extended hours (an extra 3 or more each day) to the preschool as they moved to longer opening hours and longer terms. And we provided short notice bookings including for the parish council.

The hall relies on its trustees and especially its executive officers to operate to high standards, efficiently and cost-effectively. To them, to Miles Freeman and to Andrew and Michelle our cleaners I extend sincere thanks.

At the 2018 AGM Brian Cotton steps down as vice chairman. He will be missed, especially for his skills in organising and project managing improvement works. He will remain as a trustee. Pete Hardy will step down as secretary as soon as we can find a replacement; he is relinquishing the many other day-to-day tasks he has cheerfully done for 9 years. My thanks to both.