

Chilton Polden Village Hall Committee Report - April 26

Following the AGM in November 2024, Rich Finemore took over as Chairman after Tony Condon stepped down following many years of dedicated service. The committee was strengthened with the appointment of Christine Greenway as Secretary, bringing valuable experience from the Polden Post. Alan Ball has also joined, resulting in a small but stable team of five voluntary committee members. Francesca Floris continues to play a key role in managing bookings and social media.

The committee has overseen a variety of successful events and regular activities. The *Silver Spoon Lunches*, organised efficiently by our talented Treasurer Jennifer Trethewey, are held every other month on the second Saturday and continue to be well attended. Bi-monthly Craft Markets are also gaining popularity, though increased support from local residents would be welcomed.

Regular weekly and monthly activities contribute significantly to the vibrancy of the hall. *Cuppa on the Corner*, helped by Pauline Wilton are held on the second and fourth Tuesday mornings, provides both a social opportunity and valuable fundraising for the hall. The talented Stitchers group meets every Tuesday afternoon and has recently created quilts donated to a local charity supporting foster children.

The hall continues to serve as an important meeting place for the Parish Council and the Chilton Polden Playing Field Committee. In addition, "Learning with Miss Floris" runs weekly sessions that are a valued asset, bringing many children and families into the hall. Rachel's Thursday yoga classes remain popular, with a consistent group of attendees.

The venue is also used for private events, including birthdays and baby showers, further supporting its role at the heart of the community.

During the festive season, the hall hosted wreath-making workshops led by Lindy Gibbon in support of the food bank, alongside Christmas bauble-making evenings organised with the Playing Field Committee. Both events were well received and are planned to return this coming Christmas.

Rich Finemore extends sincere thanks to all committee members for their dedication and hard work on behalf of the village. Their efforts ensure the continued success and availability of this valued community space.

The committee is always looking to welcome new members and encourages anyone interested to get involved.

Looking ahead, the committee hopes for continued success and many more enjoyable community events in the future.