

***HINTLESHAM AND CHATTISHAM
COMMUNITY COUNCIL
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
To be held on at 8 pm Monday 24th April 2023
Hintlesham & Chattisham Community Hall***

Present	Tym Moore, Chairman	Robert Smith
	Eileen Damant, Vice Chairman	John Whyman
	Liz Stones, Treasurer	David Marsh
	Linda Jones, Secretary	Margaret Langton
	Haydon Wilding, Committee	Cecelia Polley
	Debbie Archer, Committee	Dennis Plenty
	Cristiana Velloso Langton, Committee	Chris Banyard
	Norman Davey	Anne Thomas
	Stephanie Coupland, Parish Council	David Warner
	Richard DeBanks	Lauren DeBanks Beckett
	Frank Wilkin	

Apologies	Michaela Debenham, Committee	Jim Hammond
	Jane Whyman	Les Cole

1. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of 11th May 2022

The Minutes had been available on the H&C website. They were taken as read and agreed.

Proposer: Steve Lee Second: Lauren DeBanks Beckett

The Minutes were agreed. |

2. Chairman's Report

The Chairman present his report for the year:-

Firstly, I would like to welcome everyone to the AGM, which will be the last for me as Chair, for Linda as Secretary, for Liz as Treasurer, and for Michaela as an Executive member.

I will give the Chair's report, and Liz will give a Treasurer's report. Technically Liz stood down as Treasurer at the end of the year and I'm delighted to report that Stephen Lee has kindly offered to pick up the reins as Treasurer, and I know he will do a good job. Liz and Steve have been working closely together over the last three months to ensure a transition.

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I must thank Linda for collating all the reports from the numerous village community groups and these are available via the Community Council website.

We have had a very successful year measured by the improvements we have made, and the number of people using our facilities and attending the functions we have put on.

Key Achievements - Infrastructure

We have improved the bar décor and ambience making it a far more attractive to relax in.

We have put in new flooring in the bar and meeting rooms.

We now have disabled parking bay facilities for cars and mobile scooters. Thanks go to Jane Whyman and her team for managing this initiative

We improved the TV and sound systems.

We have enhanced the hall, kitchen and toilet lighting and have made improvements to the general atmosphere in the hall.

Key Achievements – Events

Jubilee beacon lighting ceremony

Beer and Cider Festival

Fantastic number of events put on :-

Bingo,

Community Breakfasts (the record is 102 served I believe)

Bands,

Special Theme Nights (e.g. Mexican, Nineties),

Cocktail evenings

And ,of course, the incredible 30-year Anniversary tea party held earlier this month.

We have witnessed a real upturn in people using our facilities and coming along to events. Although, in itself, this does not generate significant income, the by-product of these people using the bar facilities certainly does, and I think this is key going forward to ensure we get the “right” return.

I must record my gratitude to many helpers over my 8 year tenure

The increase in people benefitting from our facilities does not happen without considerable effort and energy from lots of individuals who I now would like to formally acknowledge and have the Community Council’s Executive appreciation recorded.

As numerous, rather irritating TV shows tend to do, I must now say these words “ and in no particular order” - but I will spare you the excruciating long wait before I start talking again.

Firstly, I would like to thank all the volunteers, who number over 90 at last count. This shows we have an amazingly active support organisation in place and these people give so much of their time so

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willingly. Last year we put on a "thank-you party" to all the volunteers and I am pleased to say the Community Council Executive has approved funding for another "thank you party" this year. These numbers include the staff who volunteer to run the bar, which significantly helps keeping costs down.

We have a very active set of working groups looking after the Hall, the Hall Environs, the Woodland Working, Playing Fields, Events, and Lottery and I must thank the Heads of Committees and their members for their unstinting support and contribution to maintaining and improving their facilities.

We only have two committees as such (The Executive and Hall Management) and again I must pass on my thanks to everyone who has contributed to these committees.

I am now on dangerous ground as I am going to name a few individuals, so apologies in advance, as by not naming you, I am not intending to demean your contribution in any way.

Peter King and Norman Davey are very much unsung heroes who shun the spotlight and simply get on do things on an amazingly regular basis, their contribution is truly significant, and although they always play down what they do, we do see it and we do really thank them for it.

Michaela is standing down from the Exec, but she is continuing to help us in Event going forward. She has been brilliant on the Exec, and we will miss her input. I must take Michaela back to the early days of our meetings when I was first Chair, when she told me that she missed the good old days when there was more freedom to chat in the meetings, rather than strictly follow the agenda which tended to happen in my tenure! Michaela we have a small thank you gift. (In Michaela's absence, this was delivered to her home).

Liz Stones is handing over to Stephen Lee after three years in which she has achieved so much and really driven us forward on the financial front. We have our accounts held electronically and visible to selected individuals, we have improved financial controls, and through Liz we identified the issue over Chattisham Playing ownership, which was subsequently resolved. Liz, many thanks for all your hard work as Treasurer and this is little token of our appreciation. (Presentation)

I have already talked about some of the events that have been put on for community benefit, provided by a fantastic events team, led by Lauren. But I must single Lauren out for thanks as she puts in an incredible amount of effort – both to the team – and by herself. Recently I have been up on a Friday evening and Lauren has been mixing cocktails, making pancakes, always doing something to encourage people to come along. Whenever I ask anything of Lauren she responds promptly and enthusiastically. Personally I am very jealous of all the energy you show Lauren!

Only three more thanks to go and then I'm done, you'll be pleased to know.

And now on to Richard DeBanks who, throughout my eight years as Chair, has been relentless in his drive to improve the hall, its facilities, and the two playing fields. Richard has a paid role as booking officer and cleaning manager and combines this with a lot of volunteer work in many capacities. Keeping the hall in good order, now that is 30 years old, is a constant challenge, and Richard manages it brilliantly.

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My penultimate thanks go to Les Cole, both as his role of Chair of the Parish Council, and for his personal contribution. On a personal level he fits very much into the Peter and Norman mould of quietly doing things and moving on. As chair of the Parish Council, he has worked tirelessly to work with the Community and Parish Councils to common benefit. The Parish Council contributed significantly to the disabled car parking and hall lighting improvements which was brilliant. Les has done well at articulating where he believes the relative responsibilities of the Parish and Community Council lies and from that we have been able to collectively move forward to the common good. I shall miss the very informative and productive chats we have Les.

My final thanks are both at a personal and community council level. I must thank Linda for her amazing support during my tenure, and most importantly for challenging my thinking, and offering better solutions than I would ever have thought of. Linda has devoted an amazing amount of time to the Community Council and is incredible at reaching out to others (including her own two daughters) to get expert advice on subjects taxing us. She has never shied away from picking up work which she knows is complex and time consuming, and has always delivered well thought-out practical suggestions for me, and the Community Council to consider. Linda has contributed far more than just being the Community Council Secretary and her ongoing contribution is really going to be missed.

Linda, we have a little present to give you for all your amazing work - but it is poor recompense for all the amazing work you have done over the last eleven years, and for the incredible support you have given me.

Going forward, the challenges facing us going forward are ones already familiar to us.

We need to maintain and develop what we have and what we want to improve we still need to get more people involved. In reality we remain indebted to a very few who carry a very heavy workload, and we need to share it more. I will talk a little more about our ability to get people to join our committees in a minute, as this is a real concern.

We must ensure we generate sufficient profit from our collective activities so we can service the increasing costs of the utilities we use, and the increasing maintenance of our assets, whilst never discouraging villagers from using our facilities.

We should work on improving our communication and interaction with stakeholders and villagers to ensure we deliver what people want.

Regarding people volunteering, I feel I must comment on the "Five Years and You're Out" Movement. I have heard the suggestion (on more than one occasion), that there was a belief by some members that Community Council officers should not stand more than five years. I decided, having been in the role for 8 years, which surpasses the suggested cut-off number of years, it was time for me to move on. But to be honest I am not sure of the wisdom of the tenet of this movement as :-

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- Officers are elected **annually** at the AGM and this is protected in the Constitution.
- I have continually urged for people to come forward to join our committees, to frankly only limited success, albeit the recent joiners are all top quality, and I'm delighted with their contribution.
- At this AGM we have no nominees for either the Secretary or Executive member role, so we have no-one wanting to replace those already in place, regardless of their length of tenure.

I am delighted that Robert Smith has come forward as Chair and I'm sure he will do a very job.

Finally I should give you an update on the situation regarding Chattisham Playing Field as we have an issue of getting our equipment into the field for maintenance, and historically there has been a lack of clarity as to who owns the area from the road to the playing field proper. This is in the process of being resolved and we are in discussion with the owner a possible purchase of the footpath area.

The Chairman opened the floor for questions, but there were none.

3. Treasurer's Report and Accounts

In 2021 the Hintlesham & Chattisham Community Council's ordinary course of business was once again impacted by the Covid 19 pandemic. The restrictions early in the year meant that the Community Hall had to close once more and all income from the hire of the hall ceased. Fortunately, grants were available from Babergh DC and the H&CCC received a total of £17,374 between January and May 21, this included a grant of £8,000 to assist with 'reopening' costs.

With Hall hire starting again properly in June and with revenue from other income streams such as playing field hire, recycling and the monthly draw etc, the total income received in the year, including grants was £38,831. Total expenditure was £44,580, so there was a deficit for the year of £5,749.

Hall hire for the year remained considerably lower than pre-pandemic levels at only £8,063. In 2019 Hall hire income was £19,180 and it may be some time before this level of turnover is achieved again. Other income received during the year included £1,839 contributions from the MUGA being its share of insurance and electricity. The MUGA has the contract to run the Multi purpose games area on the Hintlesham playing field.

The Parish Council made a donation of £1,000 towards the cost of grass cutting and maintenance of the Hintlesham & Chattisham playing fields and this is included in the donations figure of £1,064 in the accounts.

Thanks mainly to the grants received both this year and last, the Community Council had sufficient funds to be able to proceed with some substantial projects already agreed to prior to the pandemic. The Community Council has been involved in the funding of three projects in the year. The total cost of these projects was £26,594.

The playground at the Hintlesham playing field was resurfaced, this work was funded by the Parish Council but the H&CCC contributed £11,000 towards the cost. Unfortunately, when the resurfacing

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began it was discovered that remedial work was also required to repair the legs of the play equipment itself due to decay. The Community Council met this unexpected cost of £4,493.

The second major project undertaken was the felling of trees in the Woodland Church Belt surrounding the Community Hall. The trees had been identified as unsafe so this essential work at a cost of £9,275 was carried out in March 21.

The third project to repair the fence between the Hintlesham playing field and the Old Rectory at a cost of £1,826 was a much smaller undertaking, but again essential.

The hall running costs remained similar to the previous year although they are expected to increase in the current 2022 year with increasing costs for gas and electricity.

The Monthly Draw (formerly 200 club) is treated as a 'Restricted fund', with these funds only being made available to the Community Council after prize money has been distributed, expenses paid and the money transferred to the main charity bank account. The money received from 200 club members in 2021 was £4,089 and £1,640 was paid out in prize money. A transfer of £9,500 was made from the lottery bank account to the main charity account during the year.

The Events committee began putting on events again in September 2021. With an initial float provided from charity funds they were then self-funding for the rest of the year, with a surplus of £480 by the year end and closing funds of £730.

At the year end the charity had cash and bank balances totalling £62,567 (2020 £68,316). This includes 'Restricted funds' of £6,468 being £3,465 held in the Monthly Draw lottery bank account and £3,003 held in a separate deposit account being money specifically set aside to return the MUGA to its former state as part of the playing field should that ever become necessary. The MUGA club is to continue to contribute £1,000 annually to a maximum of £5,000 for this purpose.

With a return to some sort of normality the Community Council will be able to plan for the future, identifying areas of essential maintenance and considering improvements and projects supported by the community, as well as ensuring that the increasing costs of running the Communityhall can be met.

The Trustees would also like to thank Mark Walters for agreeing to carry out the Independent examination of the accounts, his work in this role is very much appreciated.

Adoption of the Accounts (subject to the completion of the examination)

Proposed: Debbie Archer

Seconded: Robert Smith

The Accounts were adopted unanimously.

4. Reports from Community Council Groups

a. Hall Management Committee (Tym Moore/Richard DeBanks)

This year has seen real progress in replacing old and out of date equipment, purchasing furniture,

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lighting, HADS equipment recovery, repurposed storage and redecorating the bar and hall. A strong bond has developed with the Social Club leading to refurbishment of bar area and recarpeting of the bar, meeting room and hall access area and a new aligned IT solution across the building.

Utilisation of hall and meeting room has gone down across the last few years due to Covid, 2022/23 shows an increase with more one-off party events etc. ie, New Year Eve Dance, Suffolk Bird Group, HSA events, increase kids' parties, more Event Team and SC activities (Beer Festival, Bingo (100 attendees) SC pancake evening) this results in most Saturdays being utilised.

Revenue - current inflation drove a 10% increase in hire charges in September 2022 which has been helping us to manage the current cost challenges.

The strategy to reduce energy cost as part of the refurbishment project have been greatly helped by the Parish Council's CIL allocation for LED lighting. Which in turn has enabled us to replace the "party lights" in the hall with LED mood lighting that we plan to up-sale the use of this facility to hirers. Repainting the hall, with the mood lighting, is all but finished, resulting a more modern facility that we can attract a wider group of hirers.

A massive thank you to Les Cole and Steve Lee for their help with the lighting work and to those who gave up their free time on the repainting etc.

Repairs/Maintenance to roof, doors, equipment, heating etc continue to be needed with the building showing its age and we need to continue to address these issues / plan improvements to help reduce the unexpected costs.

Social Club Committee (John Whyman)

The Social Club has seen another year of steady growth in all our activities. Before I summarise our year, I would like to thank our loyal members who have supported the club, our management committee of Lauren, Mark, Debbie, Cristiana and Jim and our important and greatly valued band of volunteer bar staff. They are, and remain, a critical part of our business – without which, the Social Club couldn't operate in its current format. We are always looking for new 'recruits' to this merry band – Don't be shy..! Please come forward to help, even if it's only for our larger events rather than a semi regular bar support role. Full training given..!

Sales from both member & community events have made a significant and positive difference to our operational surplus. I would like, through this annual report, to thank Lauren and all the Events team for creating excellent & well attended community events and for leading, with Richard, on the bar service for Saturdays. Our ability to coordinate events, in a collegiate way, having Lauren on the social club committee, is really positive.

We have maintained our 'core' opening times and days on bar service on Tuesdays, Fridays, Sunday lunchtimes, every second Thursday in the month (by order of the Parish Council..!) and, of course, Saturday events & private functions. We continue to create a 'platform' every month for the 'Village Draw' proceeded now by our 'Club Members Draw' – free entry for all club members with cash and

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bar/event 'credits' for members that are present on the draw night. This is something new to us and Jim will review our process criteria from time to time to ensure it remains both, innovative and fair. On the 'Village Draw' our grateful thanks go to Liz, Jill and their 'posse' of supporters for making this a regular cornerstone of our monthly calendar.

Our 'meeting rate' has declined slightly, year on year, 7 in 21/22 to 5 in 22/23. This continues to reflect the 'lighter touch' now necessary to maintain our operations and governance.

In January we entered membership 'renewal' period. Cristiana and Debbie are updating and revising our processes to streamline renewal and simplify our procedures. Membership is steadily increasing along with retention. This continues to help us improve diversity of folks across the community. We have retained and are improving our club membership card, with the help of Phil Archer, to include a QR code which will identify members and, in the future, will allow us to build upon exclusive member benefits and enhance 'membership value' profile.

On bar operations, we have strived to ensure we offer the best levels of quality across our 'cask conditioned' beers and delivered an offering of keg beers that are 'in tune' with demand from our members and their guests. Greene King remains our primary drinks provider and supports the club extremely well in terms of both pricing and cellar support. Our pricing has been reviewed during 2022 to reflect the upward trajectory in wholesale prices on non-Greene King manufactured products. In an effort to mitigate the impact of these pricing changes, we have migrated further into offering a higher proportion of Greene King manufactured products. This enables us to improve our purchase pricing across our whole product range. We also continue to strive to keep our policy of numerical commonality, which fits well with our volunteer support. Our core belief remains that we continually strive to ensure we deliver the best value possible to members and their families that remains commensurate with our financial expectations and the sustainability of a strong & vibrant social club. Needless to say, this remains entirely conditional upon our 'volunteer business model'.

The club's finances are continuing to build well against a weak capital position we were in at the end of 2021. We experienced a general improvement in our financial performance during the period (Dec 2021/2022). Our averaged monthly operational surplus was, circa, £794. This is a little less than we might have hoped for. It has been offset by capital improvements into our outside seating, purchased for our first beer festival in July last year and replacement TV's in the bar & meeting room areas. We also continue to strike a balance between providing the best possible value to members across our product pricing, maintaining an appropriate capital surplus in the event of unexpected eventualities and planning for future developments. The current 'cost of living crisis' continues to impact the community through higher prices including the Hall's energy costs. We are supporting these expenses by contributing nearly £3,000 this year.

We are now, very much, looking to the future. We will be continuing to build upon our development programme initiative. We have launched a working party with HCCC Hall Environs to consider an achievable 'outside space improvement' project. In conjunction with Richard and the hall management team have completed upon the 'bar refresh' project. This has made a huge difference to the overall appearance and ambiance of the bar area. Our grateful thanks go to Richard, Michaela, Lauren, Tom and everyone who helped and supported this project. The coordinated activity and effort that goes

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into all of this can't be under-estimated, as such I would like to thank, on behalf of all our members, Richard, Jane and their various supporters for their continued efforts in making the hall look beautiful both insides and out..!

The future of our Social Club remains in much of an upward trajectory with many more members joining and a steady increase in footfall and bar revenues.

This will be my last chairs report to HCCC as I will stand down from the committee at our AGM in May. I'm confident I'll be leaving the club in a good place with a great team on hand to carry on our good works. Finally, on behalf of my colleagues on the Social Club Committee, may I thank everyone who has helped, supported and contributed to the success of the club over the last 12 months and we look forward to the continued confidence and support of HCCC.

b. Monthly draw – (Liz Stones)

The monthly draw is held on the last Friday of the month at 7pm in the community hall. The members of the draw are predominately from the villages of Hintlesham & Chattisham but it is open to anyone over the age 16.

The 'profits' ,after prize money has been distributed and expenses met, are used by the Community Council to further its charitable aims and this is an important fund raiser for the community.

The total income for the year to 31 December 2022 was £3766. Prize money was £1790 with the only expense being the £20 annual fee for registration with Babergh DC.

At the year-end there were 302 members of the draw, this was down on December 2021 membership. The aim for the current year is to focus on increasing the numbers in the draw and aiding communication by building up a database of email addresses of members.

c. Events Committee (Lauren DeBanks-Beckett)

It's been another busy year!! Events have gone from strength to strength with the amount of support we receive. Each event always exceeds our expectations in terms of the support we get from villagers and non- residents - whether they be friends and family of villagers or just people interested in what we have on offer.

We have had some great events in the last year, our regular monthly fixtures of bingo and breakfast increasing in numbers to around 120 at bingo and 100 at breakfasts. Our annual events such as Christmas draw, theme nights and quiz night, Halloween party, Easter egg hunt etc also proved very popular and successful.

We also had a hand in the very first Beer and Cider festival in collaboration with the Social Club and I also must mention the amazing - and still quite overwhelming when I look back - jubilee celebrations! I still don't think we can quite believe the number of people that came along to celebrate with us!

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Finally, the more recent 30th birthday afternoon tea. It was lovely to see and meet so many 'old' faces as well as everyone else. Meeting and chatting to people that were there at the beginning of the hall's journey 30 years ago was not only interesting but a reminder of how far we've come and how amazing it is that our community hall continues to improve and develop and bring in so many of our community.

As you are aware, our aim is fundamentally to provide events where our community can come together and to celebrate the assets that the Community Council has. We are very lucky that we are so supported that we do make a profit at some of the events, all money we do make is carried forward into providing future events. This enables us to provide free events such as the Easter Egg hunt for the children but also to put on more costly events such as the barn dance and live music nights.

Hopefully, you feel that we achieve all of this and will continue to attend the events in the future. If you have any suggestions for future events then please let us know as we're always happy to hear them.

I'd like to finish by just saying a huge thank you to the rest of the events committee, Cecelia, Michaela and Glen. Honorary member Tom, Richard who always gets roped in one way or another and everyone else that has helped us out over the year dashing to the shops, baking, calling bingo, donating prizes, or just generally keeping us smiling as we go as it truly is that aspect that keeps us going!

d. Woodland Working Group (Mark Smith)

All the Woodland Working parties had gone well, with an increasing number of people attending. Some further trees had been felled, the path maintenance continued, as did clearance work around the pond. Work for the year was planned to be completed by volunteers with no external contractors needed.

Some trees damaged by the high winds had been removed, and areas trimmed to keep down some of the vegetation. The constant work of spreading chip on the paths continued. A considerable number of native trees had been planted to help regeneration, and to create creating a memorial garden of a grassy area surrounded by silver birch. Some bat boxes had been put up in the hope of attracting the local pipistrelle population. Work restarted in September and continued over the winter into March, stopping when the birds started nesting.

Contact had been received from Kier, on behalf of Babergh/Suffolk CC, concerning repairs to the footpath along Wilderness Hill. Some saplings had been felled along the edge of the path and work in repairing/replacing part of the footpath on Wilderness Hill would take place over the summer. Kier would be constructing a temporary footpath through the wood while work was underway, and the area would be made good at the end of the works.

e. Hintlesham & Chattisham Playing Fields (Richard DeBanks) Colin Peall (Contractor Jason Bullard)

Shortage of Volunteers has affected our progress on improving the two areas with much of the focus being on repairs. The output from the Village Plan in 2022 gives us some options on the sites that we

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are progressing, all be it, slowly.

Chattisham - The change of ownership of Pear Tree Cottage has lead to ongoing issues with our contractor not being able to access the site. Thanks to Les and Tom Stones for helping keep the grass cut through 2022. We continue to progress a solution to enable the contractor to get his equipment on site so the major activities, hedge & grass cutting, filling bark troughs and completing repairs can be undertaken in 2023.

We are considering the long-term use of Chattisham PF, perhaps a picnic/seating area, a coppice of trees or shrubs, it is hoped we can engage with villagers on this idea.

Hintlesham - Numerous smaller repairs have been undertaken by Norman Levy and Peter King on behalf of the committee and we thank them once again for their continued support. Jason's hard work on the hedges, field and pothole repairs give the area a generally well-kept look but the hut had been a little neglected this year due to shortage of help. Our adopted football team (Foxhall FC) have had a good season gaining promotion and are working with us to consider what improvements could be made to better the site for football/sport. We hope to progress a review of options on the hut and to continue to improve the other parts of the site.

f. Hall Environs (Jane Whyman)

Members of the committee remain the same: Ian Bryce, Richard de Banks, Stuart Kellett, Tym Moore, Mark Smith and Jane Whyman (Chair).

Six meetings took place during this time and five working parties/tidying up sessions. Thanks are again recorded to everyone who has helped over the past year both officially and unofficially - with a variety of tasks.

We continue to maintain a tidy environment for visitors to the hall, by providing displays of seasonally planted tubs, and hanging baskets for the summer months. June 2022 saw the occasion of the late Queen's 70th Jubilee celebrations, when we used a red, white and blue theme for our plantings, with hanging baskets of red trailing geraniums. Many favourable comments were received, and we are pleased to have been able to help enhance the appearance of the hall for the festivities. We have also raked leaves, removed weeds and generally tidied around the area throughout the year.

Spring saw applications to both Babergh District Council and Suffolk County Council for funding to cover the costs for two parking bays for disabled visitors to the hall, and space for mobility scooter parking. We were delighted that our applications were successful and the majority of funding for this project came from Babergh and Suffolk County. The two new bays were constructed by a local contractor during a very hot spell in June. These have been well received by the community and provide an additional benefit to the hall facilities. Our thanks are recorded for this valuable and much needed support from the local councils and to Councillors Busby and Hudson for their help in guiding us through the process.

At the time of this report, the spring daffodils are looking good and providing a much-needed splash of colour. Five hydrangea petiolaris have been planted against the plain back wall of the hall and we

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hope that these will become established over coming months, with volunteers watering when needed, especially with the dry summers we have been experiencing. Surplus bulbs have been put by Norman's bench and picnic tables located nearby for additional seating for people as they pass by or visit the hall. In February 2023 we repaired the edging boards by the entrance and reseeded some of the bare areas with grass seed and had a good general tidy up and thank members of both the hall environments and woodlands working parties for their valuable assistance.

We have enjoyed a good year and thank everyone for helping and look forward to working with other hall groups on projects as they arrive.

5. Reports from Village Organisations

a) *Parochial Church Council (Jenny Cox)*

We are pleased to report that services resumed their normal pattern in 2022. A new service of Cafe Church on 2nd Sundays @ Hintlesham was introduced, this is an informal chance to chat over a cup of coffee. Congregation numbers are stable. The Parochial Church Council met 6 times during the year.

- Chattisham All Saints continued to host Chattitude and other social events.
- Hintlesham St Nicholas is hoping to provide an accessible entrance. Churchwardens at Hintlesham thanked the band of cleaners who retired at Christmas.
- Rev Jackson Compton- Battersby moved to another Parish in November, which meant the Parish here going into interregnum, again, the process of appointing a new priest usually takes about a year.

b. *MUGA (Stephanie Coupland)*

The MUGA is still very well used. The committee have purchased a machine to help with the maintenance of the surface which in the long run will help keep costs down.

We are very fortunate that several clubs are using our court. Which helps with our costs for electric etc. Membership for Village residents is still FREE. A new online booking system was set up in the past year.

c. *Bowls Club (Dennis Plenty)*

Our 2022-2023 season has been fairly busy and quite successful.

Several of our new members have played in the Winter League which has been a different format to previous years

We were drawn to play in the First Division and have managed to stay there, finishing 6th out of 8 - pretty good considering this division has many County players in their teams. Well done Team!

Our own Captain - Frank Wilkin has been picked to play for the County - well done Frank!

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We now have a good strength of membership and look forward to our Summer season and 23/24 Winter games.

d. T Circle (Annie Eaton)

The Group meets in the main hall of the Community Centre on the first Thursday of the month at 7.30p.m. This gives us more room to hold open meetings, talks and musical events. Non-members are invited to attend these events for a small fee of £3.50. The annual membership fee is currently £20, which we have held despite rising costs. Many of the speakers donate their fees to charity. In 2022 we had talks on a wide variety of topics including public sculpture, hedgehog rescue, glass fusing and the Air Ambulance Service. We also had a well attended open evening with The Felixstowe Ukulele Band.

At the start of 2023 our annual Soup and Sweet Event was combined with T Circle's first AGM where our Constitution was adopted unanimously by the membership. This brings us in line with modern legislation. We also thanked Chris Banyard as she stood down after many years' service on the committee and as President of T Circle.

Our 2023 programme has already included a talk on Roman Suffolk and a very lively presentation about Suffolk shingle ecology, entitled Beach Bonkers! Our open musical evening in September will feature music of the 1960s and 70s. All our future talks and outings are detailed monthly in The Link. We currently have 40 members but we are always pleased to welcome more participants to join our friendly community group.

e. Hintlesham & Chattisham School (Debbie Jackson)

Hintlesham and Chattisham C of E Primary School is part of the St Edmundsbury and Ipswich Diocesan MAT of twenty-one schools. We currently have seventy-nine children on role spread over four classes. We are proud to be a Church of England School and also an integral part of our local community.

Over the last two years we have totally rewritten our curriculum, as well as all of the supporting documentation, to bring it in line with current guidance and the staff are working hard to support children to know and remember more of this. We are committed to each child achieving the very best that they can in all areas of the curriculum by enjoying school, having fun and new experiences to support their learning through our extra-curricular offer, as well as taking part in the usual school trips and visits.

This year has seen further development in our 'clubs' offer to children after asking them what they would like to see, which also supports working parents, as well as a return to our serving at the monthly community lunch in the village which the children absolutely love. We will also continue with the sending of Christmas cards to villagers that we began during the pandemic. (If anyone would like to receive one this year and are not on the current list, please let the school office know.)

Highlights from the past year have included: a whole school trip to Bury to find out about the life of St Edmund followed by a visit to the pantomime; visitors in school talking about castles and others

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allowing children to experience life in the stone age for the afternoon; a visit to Foxburrow Farm and a residential to Aylmerton Field Study Centre in Norfolk. We have also taken part in a range of different sporting activities with our aim being that every child will have the opportunity to represent the school by the end of the year.

The children are encouraged to take on an active role in our school whereby they become buddies to the younger children, can be elected to the Faith or School Councils, take on Playleader responsibilities or those of Digital Leaders. The children thoroughly enjoy these and can be heard supporting others, giving praise and behaving in a way that demonstrates their understanding of our core Christian and British Values.

Every day we do our best to provide the best education and experience of school that we can for each child in our care. We are grateful for the support of our parents and friends of the school without whom the children would receive a very different experience. They support us by raising a phenomenal amount of money which we use to ensure that each child receives some of the benefit. This year this has included coach travel for trips, class budgets to support the extras that teachers may need and even a chocolate egg for each child to allow them to take part in a school egg hunt.

I hope that this has helped to give you an insight into Hintlesham and Chattisham C of E Primary School's journey this year.

f. Garden Club (Chris Leney)

After a 3-year gap for Covid plans for an autumn Show in September 2022 were sadly shelved due to the drought. However, we were able to put on a Spring Show in March 23. Entries were down considerably from 2019 but it was great to be back. A summer trip has been planned for this year and the Club Sunday lunch will be held in the autumn.

g. The Link (Chris Smith)

It has been a pleasure to Edit/Collate the contributions to the Village Link this year. The numbers are as follows:

Distributors - 18 (11 in Hintlesham and 7 in Chattisham)

Homes covered (313 in Hintlesham, 90 in Chattisham, 35 to the school)

- All of the Links have been 8 pages in length and there have been 6 editions with inserts for particular events/ services.
- The Link has advertised and covered all the major social events in the Villages along with celebrating 240 Years of Marriage between four couples, and the sad passing of other Village residents with some very heart-felt eulogies penned by their friends.

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- There has been a drop in paid advertising over the year, Hintlesham Hall last advertised in October 2022 and Woodlands unfortunately closed at the beginning of this Year.

I have been helped enormously in the task by our Printers in Chattisham and would like to thank them for their support.

h. The Website (Haydon Wilding)

A regular update of the village website continues as this is an ongoing procedure. As people have sent me updates I continue to publish the website with the relevant information.

We are still not getting regular information from local Groups and this is a real shame, as the website will just stagnate if I am not updating your relevant pages.

There have been a couple of business changes that I have updated, plus I get the usual village draw updates and the Village Link magazine. Other than this I use the Link for information to update future events etc and adding relevant dates to the diary, with the help of Richard DeBanks.

I am happy to continue with the updates but would again appeal to clubs and members to send through updates wherever possible, some news is better than no news! A reminder that the contact details are on the website, but please if you can email them to me on updates@hintleshamandchattisham.net that would be great.

I. Hall Lunch (Stephanie Coupland)

The Hall Lunch is very well attended each month, with on average 35 sitting down. There is a great team of Volunteers who come and prepare, cook and serve each month.

We will always welcome more help if you feel you would like to give us a few hours of your time. Contact Stephanie Coupland, 01473 652297

J. H&C Book Worms (Stephanie Coupland)

The Book Club is held monthly on the 4th Monday of the month, in the Community Hall. There are 20 members.

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K. Chattitude (Phi Archer)

Since it began, Chattitude has put on a wide variety of talks covering topics from hostage negotiation to the growing of irises, and activities from art classes to a barbecue with live music. For a variety of reasons we have not been able to arrange events for several months now but expect to recommence soon with a new programme. There will be a repeat of last year's successful summer barbecue with live music, talks covering rewilding and events from WWII, and, all being well, a get together for many of the area's best-known radio presenters. The small group of people responsible for Chattitude would welcome new ideas and new members.

These activities mean that the church building itself is being used for community events and appreciated by more people from within the local community and beyond. As a direct result of Chattitude, plans are now well advanced for the installation of toilet facilities in the churchyard. As you enter the churchyard today, on your left, you'll see the area marked out where the new toilet is expected to go.

6. Election of Officers of the Community Council and Executive

a) Nomination for Chairman Robert Smith
Nominated by Margaret Langton Seconded by Stephanie Coupland
There being no other nominations, Robert Smith was elected unopposed

b) Nomination for Vice Chairman Eileen Damant
Nominated by T. Y Moore Seconded by L. M. Jones
There being no other nominations, Eileen Damant was re-elected unopposed

c) Nomination for Secretary

There being no nominations, the Executive Committee will be able to co-opt a Secretary at the next committee meeting.

d) Nomination for Treasurer Steve Lee
Nominated by Haydon Wilding Seconded by Christine Lee
There being no other nominations, Steve Lee was elected unopposed.

8. Election of Village Representatives for Community Council and Appointment of other members/organisations of the Community Council

Village Representatives: Phil Archer, Margaret Langton, John Mower, Cecelia Polley

Village Organisations: Parish Council, MUGA, Bowls, PCC, Tuesday Circle, Hintlesham & Chattisham School, Gardening Club, The Link, Village Website (PC), Hall Lunch, Book Club. Chattitude

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9. Nomination of Executive Committee

Debbie Archer	Nominated by Phil Archer Seconded by Linda Jones
Cristiana Velloso-Langton	Nominated by C. Pavey Seconded by Louise Cain
Jim Hammond	Nominated by T Y Moore Seconded by Linda Jones
Haydon Wilding	Nominated by Steve Lee Seconded by Teresa Wilding

There being no other nominations, Debbie Archer, Jim Hammond, Cristiana Velloso-Langton and Haydon Wilding are re-elected unopposed. There being one place vacant on the Committee, the procedure laid down in the Constitution was that the Executive will be able to co-opt a further member at the next meeting.

7. Any Other Business

There being no further business and the meeting closed at 9.40 pm