

Report on the work of Farmborough Memorial Hall Committee

April 2024 to March 2025

This year has seen the result of working towards keeping our energy costs as low as possible; our new electricity tariff and the battery storage installation gave us figures to see the impact of these measures, while replacing the external stage door & patio doors meant drafts were excluded.

We have not increased our Hire rates for 2025 as our finances remain healthy with most costs remaining the same which regular hirers have appreciated; this is due bookings being maintained and our regular fund raising activities giving us the extra funds we need to continue with hall improvements and hirers fees going on day to day running expenses.

We have updated the documents section of our website making sure all policies recommended by the Charity Commission are available for all users to access.

Our fund raising events include Bingo held most months which raised £1025 over the financial year, our Annual Craft & Gift Fayre in October & the Quiz evening in January together again raised over £2K in total, we really appreciate the support from users & local residents at all these events. We also had a donation in memory of Ray Hunt and will be using this to refurbish the committee room and rename it the Ray Hunt room in his memory, he worked tirelessly for the hall, he was a Chairman of the hall committee and very involved with the Farmborough Flower Show, the latter for over 40 years.

We also had a very **generous donation of £5K** which allowed us to bring forward our planned sanding and polishing of the main floor in the hall, it was completed over Christmas so there was little disruption to regular bookings and it allowed the firm time to leave it between stages to get the best possible finish.

We applied to **the Parish Council last year for a grant*** which helped towards the cost of replacing **the external stage door & patio doors** and this year we hope to replace some of the internal doors off the main hall combining funds we have raised with the Parish Council grant if we are successful with our bid.

We continue to focus on our long term strategy for hall improvements & general maintenance, as it helps us with our budget planning.

This year we

- replaced our crockery, looked at cutlery & glasses position
- had our cookers and carpet area in the main hall deep cleaned
- repaired the inner UPVC doors
- the wooden flooring has been sanded and polished.

However, areas to remain focussing on from our long term strategy are...

- internal doors being replaced.
- programme for redecorating.
- commercial dishwasher in kitchen may need replacing.
- in car park area under walls weeds & back steps need being kept in 'control', as well as monitoring the patio area.
- needing to make sure committee room is a functional & attractive space for hire to increase its use.

Finally, as Chairman I would like to thank **all committee members** for their hard work & willingness to help us move forward, and a huge thank you to support from users & local residents.

Regarding our fund raising events a massive thanks to Jan & Ann who run the Bingo with help from Pearl, the Quiz night when Nicky Stone runs the bar, Dawn, Trudi, Ann organise the food, Jan & Anita take the money at the door while Sue & Andrew ran the raffle & of course to Patrick for being the Quiz master & making sure it was a great evening.

I urge anyone who is interested to come & join us at a meeting to see what goes our next meeting follows this AGM & then on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7.30pm in the Hall.

I would like to alert you to the **Craft Fayre Oct. 18th 2025 & Quiz night Jan. 24th 2026!**

We also welcome all residents to our AGM to be held on May 20th at 7.30pm here in the Memorial Hall.

Farmborough Memorial Hall Report

Sally Davis [Chairman]

April 2025

***Grants... Farmborough Parish Council**