

**Woodhurst Village Hall
Report to Parish Meeting
2010/11**

Background

Woodhurst Village Hall is constituted by a trust deed made by Woodhurst Parish Council dated 6th March 1987. The management committee has the responsibility for the management of the hall (the property) for the use of inhabitants of the Parish of Woodhurst (without distinction of political, religious or other opinions) including for the use of meetings, lectures, classes, recreation and leisure, with the object of improving the conditions of life of the inhabitants of the parish.

Management Committee

Members of the committee are elected at the Annual General Meeting of the Village Hall, casual vacancies may be filled during the term. During the past year the following served as members of the committee:

Chair	Mr Simon West
Vice Chair	Post not filled
Secretary	Miss Annabel Armstrong
Treasurer	Mrs Tracy Bass
Letting Officer	Mr Simon West
St John's PCC Rep	Mr Alistair Marr
Parish Council Rep	Mr Alistair Marr
Other Member	Mr Gary Davis Mr Nick Dowding

Annual Review

Through the ongoing hard work of all the committee members and volunteer villagers we have had another successful year of bringing the village community together at the Hall through family, social and fundraising events. During the year the Hall committee has arranged a number of Village Bar Nights, a Halloween children's event, the Christmas Quiz, 100 Club Draw and, for the first time in many years, a pensioners Christmas lunch was held at which nearly 30 Woodhurst pensioners attended, at no charge, for a full home cooked Christmas lunch with all the trimmings.

Some events continue to be a combined effort between the active groups in the Village (the Hall, Church and Natural Woodhurst); the Woodhurst Feast Week in particular acts as a fun and fundraising week when those that wish to in the village join together, as has happened for many hundreds of years. Feast Week is arranged by a small group of people with representatives from the Church, Hall and NW.

Feast Week 2010 started with the Church service (once again superbly researched and arranged by Shirley Firth) which looked at education in Woodhurst and included anecdotes of some villagers still resident who had been educated at one of the two schools that used to be in the village. This was followed by the scarecrow festival (won in the public vote by the Marr and Rawlin's cricketers), cream teas; a mid-week family rounders and bbq evening, finishing up with Disco through the Decades at Manor Farm. Feast Week raised £1,127.88 which was split between the Church, Natural Woodhurst and the Village Hall.

The Hall has been and continues to be used as a venue for a number of different events including a Polling Station for HDC, the meeting room for Woodhurst Parish Plan Group, the Parish Council, Natural Woodhurst events and Village meetings.

The Hall has been privately booked during the year by residents for a number of funeral wakes, as a rehearsal space for a drama production and as a meeting venue for some out of village clubs and societies. The Hall's facilities have been made available to the Church for their Advent Fair.

Forthcoming events planned by the Committee this year include Feast Week events, bar nights, the Christmas quiz and possibly also another pensioners lunch.

A formal letting agreement is being used for all bookings, attached to this is a copy of the Hiring Rules. A hiring agreement has been drawn up for the Village Hall equipment which is available for hire to villagers. Copies of these are available on the Woodhurst Website or from Simon West.

The Premises

As previously reported, the Village Hall Committee are investigating the replacement of the Hall which is nearing the end of its useful life. The Hall itself does not offer particularly welcoming or flexible accommodation. Architect's drawings are awaited, once these are available the occupiers of neighbouring properties and the Parish Council will be invited to a meeting to review and comment on these before the next step is taken of consulting again with the planners at HDC prior to a planning application being made and grant funding sought. The 2009 report gave more details to what we are hoping the new building might provide and look like.

Finances

A full financial report will be made available at the Village Hall AGM on the 10 May.

Annabel Armstrong

Secretary, Woodhurst Village Hall Committee

25 April 2011