

Bradfield Village Hall CIO – Annual Report 2020/21

This is the Annual Report of the Bradfield Village Hall CIO – Charity number 1180330 (formerly Bradfield Village Hall Trust – charity number 300129) of Southend Road, Bradfield Southend, Reading RG7 6EY. It is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation governed by its constitution. The Management Committee [Trustees] during 2020 have been Christine Evans (Chair), Eva Roggenstein (Treasurer), Jane Gaut, Sam Grey, Antony Powell and Paul Henwood. The secretary is Sarah Westcar. The Management Committee are also the managing trustees of the adjacent Bradfield Playing Fields (Charity Number 314297) on behalf of Fields in Trust. It is a member of Connecting Communities in Berkshire.

Emma Rolfe has continued her role as the Administrator, which includes taking enquiries and bookings for the hall, dealing with day to day issues, locking the gates at night and organising the social media posts. She also took over the cleaning when Carol Cullum stepped down. The Committee thank Carol for her hard work over the years and are very grateful to Emma for all her hard work keeping the Village Hall running smoothly, especially with the added burden of complying with covid rules.

A very interesting and successful Open Day was held in the hall on Saturday 25th January 2020, to coincide with ACRE's first National Village Hall Week. An exhibition of photos, anecdotes and historical information was displayed in the hall from past and present users. Thanks to all those who contributed and spent time sifting through and arranging the many collections. Much of it has been carefully stored away so that it could be used again once the new hall is open. Unfortunately we were unable to repeat any such event in January 2021, although a series of anecdotes about the hall were published on the Village Hall Facebook page.

The Committee were aware that the playground was deteriorating and felt remedial action needed to be taken. Some of the items have been removed, others mended and much of the metalwork was given a good clean and repainted by the Committee and some willing volunteers. Many thanks to those who gave their time to help. Thanks also go to Paul and Tony who have tackled many of the maintenance jobs around the site.

Eva organised the installation of superfast Broadband in the hall through Gigaclear at no cost to the Village Hall. In consultation with them, it has been installed so that it will be easy to extend through into the new building at the appropriate time. Gigaclear are providing the use of the internet free as part of the Community Hub initiative.

At the beginning of 2020 the hall had maintained its level of bookings with the Sunshine Club being the major user using the hall every early morning and four afternoons a week, but in late March came the first Coronavirus restrictions. During the first lockdown, the Management Committee were happy to allow the shop to use the hall at no cost to enable them to cope with the extra demands of the Pandemic, by offering home deliveries to those in isolation. No income was received during this time, but relief was granted for Business Rates, partially reducing outgoings. It was agreed to keep paying Emma to keep up with the ever changing legislation so the building was kept safe for those accessing the building, as well as tackling many of the outstanding jobs around the hall. We are particularly grateful this year for the grant from the Parish Council towards the upkeep of the field.

Subsequently, when government regulations allowed, the Sunshine Club have returned and two support groups have been using the hall. In recent weeks and with a relaxing of restrictions, there have been many enquiries about hiring the hall. These have not all be positive, the lack of suitable facilities being the main problem, such as for young children.

During the Summer, the Hall became involved in the Village Hall Accreditation Hallmark Programme with Connecting Communities in Berkshire [CCB]. This recognises good standards of managements and demonstrates that Trustees are meeting their legal obligations. Bradfield Village Hall has been accredited with Level 1 and is eager to be assessed for levels 2 and 3 when government regulations allow.

In July the site was invaded by travellers, causing considerable disruption to the area. Our thanks go to the Police in persuading them to leave. However lasting damage was minimal. Following advice from the Police, posts were erected one side of the hall and a height barrier erected the other side. We greatly appreciate the Parish Council paying for this protection for the field.

The Management Committee's main focus has centred on the Development Project to replace the current hall and improve all the site facilities. Since planning consent was granted in November 2019, covid restrictions have brought challenges with progressing the project and fund raising. The Development team has consisted of Julie Noakes, Christine Evans and Eva Roggenstein, and Sarah Westcar for the MUGA and playground, assisted by other members of the community as needed. Their hard work is very much appreciated. Regular updates have been published in Newslink magazine and on our Facebook pages and by leaflet distributed to all homes in the parish, in addition to reports given to the Parish Council. A video has also been produced promoting the project which can be viewed on the village hall website, www.BradfieldVillageHall.co.uk

Some fundraising events have occurred, including two sponsored walks. We did a virtual 467 mile walk via all the three Bradfield Village Halls in England. The very successful Double Match Day event with Greenham Trust netted over £17,000. Many thanks to all those in the village who joined in the 1,112 laps of the sites of the new hall and games area. In partnership with the school, we also held an enjoyable scarecrow trail in the village.

Much effort has been expended on grant applications and encouraging locals to support the project. So far, over £565,000 has been raised, in donations, pledges and grants. The estimated project costs indicate that a further £1.7 million is needed to complete the whole plans. We are extremely grateful for the support from many of those living locally and users of the facilities, as well as those bodies who have awarded grants towards the project.

The money raised so far has enabled us to progress the project to RIBA Stage 4 – drawing up the plans in detail in readiness to go out to tender when the remaining funds have been identified. The Trustees are aware that delays and alterations in design and planning, particularly the roof, have increased the total costs. However, the urgent necessity of having suitable facilities in Bradfield is providing the impetus to find the funding, both locally as well as through grant bodies. It is hoped that building will be able to start in late Summer/early Autumn 2022 and completion in Summer 2023. The challenge in the coming year will be to raise the necessary funds to achieve these long-awaited community facilities.

BRADFIELD VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

ACCOUNTS YEAR ENDING 31 December 2020

INCOME

EXPENDITURE

BRADFIELD VILLAGE HALL CHARITY No. 300129

2019		2020	2019		2020
18316.06	Hall Lettings	7559.50	266.37	Rates	67.00
775.00	Field/Court/Car Park	400.00	240.59	Water	59.57
1200.00	Mayfayre		379.63	Licences	399.79
3000.00	Parish regular support	3500.00	1511.50	Insurance	1530.19
400.00	Shop Ground Rent	400.00	856.66	Electricity	690.37
26.88	Interest	29.51	1471.94	Oil	1415.04
50.00	Youth Shelter Ground Rent	50.00	4029.62	Maintenance	1294.20
1145.00	Donations to Development Project	19664.09	107.40	Playground/Court	680.50
466.00	Grants for Development Project	15000.00	102.55	Sundry/Postage	52.25
	Donations to Dev Project on TGE	2152.74	2761.20	Mowing Field	2782.80
	HMRC Gift Aid	1165.00	2080.00	Cleaner	1040.00
7.50	West Berkshire Lottery	130.00	310.00	Window Cleaning	65.00
	EasyFundraising + AmazonSmile	94.06	680.32	Memberships/Purchases	356.39
1050.74	Watermill Production		3995.00	Bookings Secretary	3900.00
1110.65	2nd Watermill Production			Social Media Guru	40.00
859.44	Saturday Market Income	109.01	528.00	Bins/Litter Picking/Gate	
	West Berks Covid Grant	10000.00	308.35	Cleaning Materials	467.57
80.00	Car Boot Sale		6350.00	Green Clock Bradfield Ltd	250.00
	Retained Deposits	400.00	622.30	Watermill Expenses (1)	
	Donated Deposit from Pigeon Club	100.00	624.60	Watermill Expenses (2)	
				Development Project	119.00
				Returned Deposits	1035.00
			2700.00	Trust Deed Expenses	
				The Good Exchange Fees	302.42

BRADFIELD PLAYING FIELDS CHARITY No. 314297

349.52	Rates 2018/19				
346.84	Insurance 2018/19				
396.91	Rates 2019/20		396.91	Rates 2019/20	
352.95	Insurance 2019/20		352.95	Insurance 2019/20	
	Rates 2020/21	0		Rates 2020/21	0
	Insurance 2020/21	352.95		Insurance 2020/21	352.95
29933.49		61106.86	30675.89		16900.04

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2020

	Accumulated Fund			Assets	
11207.57	Reserve 1.1.20	10465.17	8183.35	Co-op Current	5401.90
			5026.88	Co-op Deposit	15045.41
-742.40	Excess of Income over	44206.82		Co-op Dev Fund	21125.13
	Expenditure			The Good Exchange	15168.80
			-2850	Returnable Deposits	-2215.00
			104.94	Petty Cash	145.75
10465.17		54671.99	10465.17		54671.99

Signed.....ChairmanTreasurer

Bradfield Village Hall

(1180330)

**Report to the Trustees of accounts for the year ended 31st December 2020
as set out on page 2**

RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF TRUSTEES AND EXAMINER

The Trustees, are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the financial statements under section 145 of the Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

BASIS OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements, and seeking explanations from you as Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act; or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Marett Limited

David Marett FCA CTA
Marett Limited
Rushall, Bishops Road
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Date: 19 March 2021