

Report from Warham Reading Room for 2020 and 2021

Expenditure

- Before the COVID-19 pandemic, we were in a position where regular bookings usually covered monthly costs. This will be reviewed and monitored as regular hirers return.
- Fundraising through village events was going very well before the COVID-19 pandemic.
- SC has continued to review all monthly direct debits and decreased these where possible.
- Maintenance costs have increased due to COVID-19. Increase in cleaning between each use of the building.
- We have received COVID-19 grants and 100% business rate discount.
- We will review costs and budget once things start to return to 'normal' following the closures.

Regular bookings

- Ballet silver swans - Mondays 3-6pm (*not yet returning following COVID-19 closures*)
- Pilates – Wednesday 9.30-10.30am, Friday 12-1, 1.15-2.15pm. Will possibly hire more hours in the future. Left September 2020, returning May 2021.
- Wings of Light – Wednesday fortnightly 7.30pm (*not yet returning following COVID-19 closures*)
- Aerobics class – Tuesdays 9.30-11.30am
- Yoga – ad hoc dates. (*currently no future dates booked*)
- Warham Parish Council
- Elections
- All bookings were cancelled due to COVID-19 closures and guidelines. Some met inside or outside in line with COVID-19 guidelines at the time.
- Wings of Light and Warham Parish Council had paid for their 2020 dates in advance. The hours paid for will be used for 2021 (and 2022 if required) until the hours paid for have been used.
- We had advertised for new regular bookings before the closures.

Bookings

- Income had increased through bookings. Online presence seems to be helping. Word of mouth too.
- 2020 we had many bookings in the diary (until cancelled) and majority have moved their date to 2021.
- We have 4 wedding receptions this summer (2 re-scheduled, 2 new).
- Hopefully when COVID-19 guidelines allow this will pick up again.
- We reviewed our hire charges in 2020. Hourly rates remained the same. Weekend hire was increased. Village residents continue to receive discounted rates. Damage deposit for large and weekend hires was reduced to £100 which is our insurance excess charge.

Updates

- We launched the community sports club in 2019 but this was not very successful. We had decided to try again in 2020 with increased advertising but this did not happen due to COVID-19.
- We have a telephone number which calls SC's mobile. 01328 854254
- We now have a new letterhead, poster letterhead and logo which fits in with our website.
- We are currently looking at a grant for the car park to be improved.
- We are currently looking at having outside painted as this is now needing doing. We will then complete outside work on a rotational basis in the future to spread costs apart.
- We were looking at improving the storage in the store room.
- We had planned on having a '5th birthday' summer open party (similar to the opening) in July 2021 as it is 5 years since the refurbishment, but this cannot go ahead due to COVID-19.
- Lots of our plans have been postponed due to COVID-19. We will be reviewing the list at the next Trustees meeting and will prioritise the list.

Trustees / signatories / committee

- AW had expressed his wish to retire. This was delayed due to the pandemic.
- PHS expressed her wish to resign due to other commitments. This was delayed due to the pandemic.
- Should AW and/or PHS not continue to be a Trustee we will have at least 1 vacancy. This is to be confirmed at the next Trustees meeting.
- Signatories will need to change as AW is a signatory. AM has agreed to be a signatory.
- We have 5 members of the committee who all help run the village events.

Due to COVID-19 closures, we do not have as much to report as we have been closed for majority of the time since March 2020.