

## **Clent Parish Hall Report 2020 for St Leonard's Church AGM to be held on 19 May 2021**

For the first time in its history, Clent Parish Hall was closed for five months from March until August 2020 due to the pandemic. The Fundraisers held the last event in the Hall before the March lockdown and we wish to thank them once again for their support.

In March local volunteers, led by Kim Topham, Bonnie Harvey and Rosie Padmore, formed the Covid-19 Clent Community Support Group (later renamed Clent Connect Group) with the aim of supporting the elderly and vulnerable in our village. The Trustees gave permission for the Group to set up a Community Store Cupboard in the Hall which enabled people to drop off, collect or swap food, cleaning products etc. The Group used the Hall as their operational hub from March until June.

The Trustees wish to thank everyone involved in running the Hall for their tireless commitment throughout 2020 in following the Government guidelines and opening the Hall in a Covid safe way when allowed to do so. We are now members of ACRE (Action with Communities in Rural England) and have received excellent advice from their department advising village halls in Worcestershire.

We wish to thank Paul Timmins, who has carried out all the maintenance work at the Hall to a very high standard throughout the year, always responding quickly to any urgent matters. In addition, he meticulously prepared the Hall for safe re-opening in August 2020 post Covid-19 closure. This involved a great deal of hard work and planning. We are extremely grateful to Paul for all he does.

We wish to thank Diane, the cleaner, especially the way in which she has co-operated with us in fulfilling the extra demands placed upon her this year.

We wish to thank Joe Weston, the Hall gardener.

Jane Collins has continued as key holder and we do thank her very much for the conscientious and thorough way in which she does this important job. Jane has been particularly helpful in meeting all returning hirers post Covid-19 closure to run through all the procedures and signs.

James and Tricia Bradbury have continued as our Booking Secretaries and their wonderful efficiency is appreciated by all those using the Hall. We wish to thank them for the excellent way they have kept track of the changing government rules, updating all the hire documents accordingly. They have even signed up new hirers in a difficult year.

We wish to thank Jon Prior for all his hard work as Treasurer and to Richard Woolley for auditing our accounts. A special thank you to Jon for arranging the £10,000 Covid-19 Small Business Grant in May 2020 to meet the costs incurred in re-opening as well as fixed costs incurred during closure.

Finally, we are sorry to announce that David Stokes resigned as Church Warden and consequently as Administrative Trustee of the Hall in January 2021 after three years in post. David has always been such a helpful and useful Trustee and we wish to thank him for all his hard work and commitment.

### **The Managing Trustees:**

**Anne Harris (chair), Rosemarie Buchan, Paul Timmins, Ann Nation**