Your Village Hall – Will it be here in 5 years' time?

The hall is maintained by a group of willing volunteers. Most have served for ten, twenty or more years to ensure the hall remains open to the whole community.

At the last two parish council meetings there has been some considerable debate on the future of our hall and Whiston Village Hall.

Both halls require over £500 each month and more to keep paying the bills and that is on some occasions only being achieved by the committee holding events.

The committee operated without a secretary now since last October and have advertised for a replacement for many months before and since. The role whilst crucial is not demanding and would take little of someone's time yet we had not one enquiry.

Our main sources of income come from the various groups who hire the hall each week along with a twice weekly Post Office.

Without these the occasional hire for parties and funeral teas would only scratch the surface.

However, the Post Office is poorly supported yet they are the biggest source of income into the hall. The Post Master runs several satellite services across the area and staff holidays and sickness can mean truncated hours and loss of service at short notice.

The other hirers of the hall enjoy some success and all bring benefits in health and wellbeing to the village be it for young girl guides or at the Monday yoga class.

We would urge the community to make use of these groups to ensure they continue to sustain the hall and also to consider hiring it for a party of event. We believe our rates are competitive yet realistic when set against our costs.

In the last 20 years within the village we have seen the loss of two pubs with the last one currently closed, the Post Office shop has closed and the butchers shop last opened in the spring of 2015. The Youth and Community Centre closed its doors a few years ago and is unlikely to reopen.

The only community asset that the whole community can use is the village hall and unless it is used it too will close. Its future will also be under threat if we do not recruit fresh volunteers onto our committee.

The Parish Council has set up a working group to look at how it can support both village halls and a suggestion was made that members of the community might wish to be part of the group.

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If you interested in working towards ensuring the halls future or wish to find out more about joining the committee, please contact Martyn Hordern on 01538 750657.

If you want to hire the hall, then do visit our website at www.kingsleyvillagehall.org.uk or call Alison our bookings secretary on 07890 830647

WHAT'S ON **We have lots going on – check notice boards, the web site and the Facebook page for the latest information.**

Mondays—Post Office 12.30 to 4.30pm and Yoga 7.30pm to 9pm (generally school term times)
Tuesdays - Mothers and Toddlers 2pm to 3pm (Term times) Second Tuesday of each month Parish Council (occasionally held at Whiston)
Wednesdays – Fitness With Caz (Box and Burn) 7 pm
Thursdays – Mess Makers 1030am, Post Office 2.45pm to 4.45 pm and Guides 7.30pm to 9pm (Term time)
Friday's Fitness with Caz (Body Blitz) 6pm.

Future events at the hall:

Saturday 27th August 2016 – Annual Gardeners Association Show

Saturday 24th September 2016 – Katie Francies – Female Vocalist (Tickets £5, bar to be applied for)

Friday 4th November 2016 – Concert with internationally known duo (To be confirmed)

Friday 2nd December 2016 – Christmas Lights – annual switching on of the Christmas Lights at the hall

Saturday 3rd December 2016 – Breakfast with Santa – must for all the family run for the first time this year by the hall.