

A message from our Chair

Active Martinstown

In an exciting new development for 2026, The Village Hall (MVH) is introducing a new concept for the village: ACTIVE MARTINSTOWN!

Our purpose at MVH is to serve the whole community providing a welcoming, inclusive space where people can come together for wellbeing, learning, recreation, and social connection. We have many activities that people come to us to engage in, as you know (and can see from on this new website!).

The recently opened Matthews Room, funded by the Morrisons Foundation, provides even more opportunities for people to come together and be involved in lots of different pursuits.



But for all age groups across the social spectrum, being physically active can bring both enjoyment and health benefits and be inclusive of everyone - and that's where Active Martinstown comes in.

So how can MVH's Active Martinstown initiative help in practice?

- Firstly, for younger children of all abilities, we'll be adding some wonderful new equipment to the Active Playpark and this will happen as soon as next month. Its being funded by the National Lottery and was made possible thanks to National Lottery Players.



Watch out for another message on this shortly.

- That message will also include news of something outdoors for adults! No more spoilers on this for now... again, wait for the next message.
- Not everything is outdoors, though... Three – yes, three new sports activities are going to start happening *inside* the hall.
- We now have not just all the equipment but also the court for **Pickleball** – the highly fashionable sporting mash-up of tennis, badminton and ping-pong! Its easy to learn but impossible to stop playing. I know – I've helped test the equipment. We'll be inviting people to sign up to join. Meantime, please get

in touch with Mike Beesley on 07891 646845 to express your interest in this terrifically fun game and we'll arrange a taster.

- That classic battle of the reflexes, **table tennis/ping pong/whiff-whaff** is back! We now have two tables, all the gear and, across the village, all the competitive attitude needed to get this club going. Same process – let Mike know if you're up for it and we'll set up a taster session.
- **Indoor bowls** – precision bowling is chess on a carpet that demands strategic thinking over sheer athletic power. And yes, we have new equipment for this too and yes, let Mike know if you'd like to come to a taster!

I'm betting you can't wait, and the good news is you don't have to.

Come and join us and be a part of Active Martinstown.

Your body needs it!