

Pine Lodge Report to the Parish Council 2016

When preparing for this report our secretary – Chris Coward – went through our minutes and listed the year's achievements.

As well as general maintenance ie cleaning and small general repairs we have dealt with the following:

- A water leak from the tank in the roof and a major leak around the water meter on the roadside.
- Installed new LED lighting
- Varnished the outside of the building and the inside of the entrance foyer
- Installed acoustic panels to improve music and dialogue on film nights and for other hirers.
- Undertaken a TOE2 Energy audit which has helped us to improve ongoing condensation problems and highlighted other areas where we may be able to be more energy efficient such as replacing the lights in the toilets with LEDs.
- We have carried out statutory 5 year electrical testing which highlighted the need to renew the emergency lighting. This has now been done.
- Annual PAT testing led to us replacing a heater and a couple of extension leads.
- The garden has had its spring tidy-up and the old lavenders have been replaced.
- The hearing loop has not been functioning properly and so a new one has been purchased and will be installed soon.
- Our 2 dishwashers were showing their age and becoming more and more unreliable and so we decided to invest in a commercial model which has proved a huge asset especially on quiz nights enabling us all to get home before midnight!

Alongside all of this we have carried out all our usual events such as Quiz nights, craft evenings, the cinema club, Fireworks, the Christmas Fayre, the senior citizens' lunch and the annual pantomime. Though unfortunately this will be the last one of those as lack of support has meant a huge loss and we cannot sustain this in the future.

We held our 10th birthday party last September which was a great success and much enjoyed by the village – thank you for supporting us so well on the day and supplying huge amounts of food! All of this as well as just paying the bills, renewing licences, insurances and certificates and generally keeping the show on the road. No wonder we have been busy!

As part of our remit we support other charities by hiring the hall at a reduced rate and this year we have helped Bloodwise and Friends of Oscar which supports children with brain and spinal tumours. We have also agreed to host one of the 3 proposed defibrillators for the village and this should be in place next week.

Yoga, WI and Mindfulness groups continue to do well and new regular hirers this year have included a children's dance class, a pre-school creative art class and Rugbytots begins next week!

We are hoping that a new Pilates class will start soon but unfortunately the Zumba class has finished through lack of support.

There will be a children's' party to celebrate the Queen's 90th birthday on June 9th organised by the school and pre-school.

How do we keep all this happening?

Firstly, we have to thank Linda and Jim Lovegrove who take the bookings, let hirers in and out, carry out minor repairs and decorating and keep the hall beautifully clean and tidy. We truly could not manage without them – thank you both for all you do.

Secondly we are lucky to have an amazing, dedicated committee who give up so much of their time to keeping everything running well – a huge thank you to them all.

However, we all feel that recruiting new people to the committee is essential to maintain what we do and to provide fresh ideas and energy. The present group cannot go on forever, we urgently need more help so please think seriously about giving us a hand.