

# **CHALVINGTON WITH RIPE PARISH**

## **ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 9<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2022**

### **Ripe and Chalvington Village Hall Annual Report** **2022-2023**

#### **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

This has been another difficult year due to the COVID pandemic. With the exception of the pre-school, most activities had to cease, with the result that our income has again suffered, whilst ongoing costs for maintenance, heating, repairs etc have increased.. For the second year running, no grant was received from the Parish Council to help meet these costs. With the easing of lockdown restrictions, things have thankfully improved in the last three months.

In order to foster community spirit, the Committee has organised a series of events since Christmas. These included the Annual Village Quiz, a talk on Ripe in Roman times and an evening devoted to Ripe at War. All events were well attended and feedback was positive.

The school has continued to operate successfully and Kate and her team should be congratulated on receiving an 'Outstanding' rating from OFSTED. It was gratifying to learn that the facilities and the standard of maintenance provided by the Village Hall were a contributory factor in this success.

During the year negotiations were commenced to receive a gift of land from Jill Phillips. This would enable the creation of a much needed 'Community Space', but sadly Jill passed away before the legal transfer could be effected. The Committee is in touch with the estate's executors to see if the intended gift could still be processed.

The Village Hall is an important asset to Ripe and Chalvington and the Committee will do all it can to ensure the Hall remains in good condition and ready to play its role in supporting local inhabitants. The Hall will continue to provide an attractive venue for social occasions, Parish meetings, various 'Events', clubs and, of course, the pre-school.

Finally, a word of thanks to the team which has been augmented by the appointment of Freddy Pankhurst and Charles Hardy. All members of the Committee continue to volunteer their time for the benefit of the Parish Community and it has been a pleasure to be a part of such a friendly and hard-working Village Hall Committee.

Brian Hill

Chairman