

## Ramsdell Church & Village Hall AGM

23<sup>rd</sup> June 2022

### **Chairman's Report**

It's been a very exciting and busy year for the village hall team. Despite Covid and the need to close the old hall for most of 2020 and parts of 2021, the team have remained busy keeping everything going and in order, special thanks to Caroline and David and the team for putting in place all the Covid measures required.

As you will hear from Julia bookings have been back to normal levels – and may have been higher had it not been for Covid. Thankfully we have been able to keep the hall open since last summer.

My thanks go to the committee on behalf of the village community for their continued support, without which we would not be able to maintain this hall or have been able to invest our time in the new Ramsdell Hall project.

I would also like to thank the team for the support they have given me, as your chair, in facing the challenges and managing through this year. My personal thanks also go to Caroline Atkinson, Julia Burnett, David Finch, John Davies, Sue Bailey, Alison Kelly, Hazel Taylor, Sally Sciaretta and Mike Le Fluffy for all their hard work and continued support.

Now to business.....

During the year we have continued to meet, review bookings and manage any ongoing maintenance and health and safety needs for the old hall. We have deliberately kept repairs to a minimum while keeping within health and safety regulations.

We kept our processes for managing Covid 19 compliance up to date and maintained our new maintenance checking process to ensure the hall remained safe and secure, but also to satisfy additional compliance requirements from Allied Westminster.

**The hall has continued to provide a much-needed service to the community and is a key asset for the village. The neighbourhood plan published in 2019, stated that the village hall was the most valued asset in the community, with a string desire to see a village hall capable of supporting the community in the future continuing. Fulfilling this desire has been our key purpose and has helped to fuel our determination to complete the new hall build project.**

**I am pleased to report we have made good progress in bringing this vision to life. We commenced building works by breaking ground in May 2021 (within days of the planning condition requirement) and we are now very close to completing the technical build by the end (July/August). We are aiming to open during September this year and plans for an opening ceremony are at the early stages.**

As ever the village hall is managed and run by volunteers, we continue to value their support and are indebted to them.

As we embark on a new chapter and move to the new hall – we need new volunteers to join the committee or to help in any way you can. Please speak to anyone of the team or call me if you can help. They say ask a busy person to get a job done – and it will get done. BUT I also believe that many hands make light work of any task and the more the merrier. Please volunteer.

My thanks go to the team around me – for keeping me busy – but most of all giving their time freely and for their continued commitment and support to the village.

**Janet Markwick**

**Chair Trustees & Hall Management Committee**