

# **Abbots Morton Village Hall**

## **Summer Newsletter**

**August 2021 – Covid Edition 5**

### **Refreshed Paintwork**



Can you believe it's six years since we had the exterior of the hall painted.

Some of the paintwork has been showing signs of wear so ... just this week... we've had it repainted to keep it looking smart and protect it against the winter elements. WomenBuild of Redditch have made another great job of it. The colour is the same... Purbeck Pearl.

The village hall committee have also invested in four wooden flower tubs placed either side of the front bay windows to improve still further the approach to the hall.



Huge thanks to villager Martyn Walton who has planted out the tubs with a beautiful variety of flowers. Martyn looks after them along with members of the committee who water the tubs whenever necessary (the hall now has a water supply outdoors and a hosepipe to make the job easier). As you can see from the pictures, the tubs make great props for decorations at wedding receptions.

## Weddings

Talking of weddings, despite the cancellation of three wedding receptions because of Covid, one couple did go ahead in July with their Covid-secure wedding reception and made a fabulous job of decorating our hall.

It does look wonderful and the vaulted ceiling is one of the great selling points for couples seeking a lovely venue for their reception. We already have a wedding reception booked for 2023..!



## Bookings: Climbing back steadily

We're pleased to say that bookings of the hall are gradually returning.

- **St Peter's Church:** The Indoor Picnic planned for 27<sup>th</sup> June was cancelled by St Peter's church because it was felt too soon to be held. Covid infection rates are falling at the moment and the church is on track to hold its main fundraising event of the year, the **Harvest Supper**, in the hall on Friday October 8th.
- **Yoga:** Yoga classes held by Beverley Young of Bishampton are running throughout August and September on Monday and Thursday mornings. Anyone who would like to take part in a yoga class can contact Beverley at: [yogawithbeverleyyoung@gmail.com](mailto:yogawithbeverleyyoung@gmail.com) or on 07714208187. Her classes run from 9.45am to 10.45am.
- **VetImage:** This company from Kent holds presentation for ultra-sound scanners for use by dog breeders to check on the condition of unborn puppies. Our location in the middle of the country is ideal for hosting dog breeders from all parts of the UK. We're delighted to have them back for five one-day presentations between now and the end of the year. Our Covid secure measures are designed to reduce to a minimum any risk of coronavirus transmission.
- **Parish Council.** Abbots Morton Parish Council has returned to holding its meetings in person instead of by Zoom online. They are open to public, of course. The next is on Thursday 23rd September at 8pm.

**Hot Off The Press:** There is a brand new booking...confirmed this week. It's for a local Writers' Club which will be meeting on Wednesday mornings at the hall from 10am to 12 noon.

We're delighted to host the club whose members prefer to meet in our airy and well ventilated hall rather than in private homes while there is still some Covid uncertainty.

## Maintenance

Martyn Walton has been making an excellent job of looking after the grounds and cutting the hedges. They look extremely neat and we've now subscribed to a brown wheelie bin to have the cuttings taken away.

## Covid Update

We are still keeping our one-way system in operation for the moment and we are still expecting and encouraging users to wash their hands or use sanitising gel that we provide at the entrance and exit and in the lobby. Mask wearing and social distancing is now, of course, optional, though our policy is to encourage it. We have re-opened the men's and ladies toilets so we no longer restrict toilet use to the disabled loo. The ladies toilet will still be the Isolation Room in the event of anyone showing Covid symptoms while in the hall.



## Further Investments...upgrades



The village hall committee has been busy during the Covid period planning and implementing various upgrades to our facilities to maintain our position as one of the best village halls in Worcestershire.

- We have invested in a Go-Pak trolley to smartly and safely store our Go-Pak tables. WE have also purchased a thirteenth large table and two smaller tables to give hirers greater flexibility in layouts of the hall. We no longer have to stack the tables against the wall
- In the kitchen, our urn was old and not working very well. We've bought a smart new one as well as a new kettle.
- We've taken a halfway step to improving our heating in the hall. Our existing wall-mounted panel heaters can now be switched on and off remotely by members of the committee just before an event so that we can provide a warm hall when people arrive. The next stage is to provide a more energy-efficient heating system but there will be more detail on that in the next Newsletter.

## Your Trustees... come and join us.

The Village Hall Trustees are:-

**Chair:** Lynne Pemberton 01386 792549;

**Secretary:** Pat Willingale

**Treasurer** Sarah Dykes 07411 633148;

**Bookings Officer,** Colin Pemberton 07766 524833,

**Parish Council Representative :** Martin Willingale 07484 104967

**Parochial Church Council Representative:** Lynne Pemberton

If you would like to join the Village Hall Committee and be part of a great team please get in touch with any of us.

- Colin Pemberton, PRO, August 2021