Chair's Annual Report
for
Cornish Hall End Village Hall's Annual General Meeting
on
08 October 2026

Welcome and thank you all for attending this Annual General Meeting of the CHE Village Hall.

This past year has seen the continued use of the Hall. This was in no small part to the hard and dedicated work of those Trustees and others who have volunteered to clean and keep the hall maintained and organise and support events, meetings etc. for the community, as required by our charitable status;

''(the hall is held in trust) ….. for the use of inhabitants of Cornish Hall End, Essex and the neighbourhood, …….. for the use for meetings, lectures, and classes and for other forms of recreation and leisure-time occupation, with the object of improving the conditions of life of the said inhabitants.''

We, as Trustees, I am sure, shall continue to do all we can to encourage the Hall to be put to good use, and the events that we have held this year have seen good attendances, and have helped raise sufficient funds to maintain the running costs.

In the past year we have had 9 Management Trustees who have given their precious time to keep the hall open and available for our local community – my thanks to them.

As well as the Trustees we have at least four other volunteers who have helped with hall maintenance and events and auditing our annual accounts. Their help and involvement are very much appreciated. Thanks too, to the Parish Council, and particularly our ward councillors for their continued support for the hall.

Despite the large increases in energy prices the hall managed to maintain the previous year's hire rates and continues to be in a sound financial position and to 'pay its way' with the income we make over the year. Thanks to the Parish Council for reimbursing our insurance premium.
Once again, our surplus funds were invested and the interest earned has been added to our general funds.
Our treasurer has prepared and submitted the necessary reports to the Charity Commission for their records.
Our policy documents and fire safety assessment plan were reviewed and signed off; no notices of any major accidents or other incidents were received.

The installation of the acoustic panels in the main hall (to help reduce back-ground noise during gatherings) have been installed and the car park paving and cracked drainage channel were repaired.
The floor structure of the small meeting room had deteriorated and was repaired and new floor coverings over the whole floor was laid. Our thanks to the Parish Council for providing us with a grant towards the cost of this work.

The replacement of an old emergency exit door and frame is planned, but no other major works are foreseen.

A bench was installed on the playing field adjacent to the hall, as a memorial to Barabara Foot, a previous chairwoman of the hall, who kindly left a large legacy for the upkeep of the Hall.

Routine checks on fire safety equipment and our defibrillator, and air-conditioning maintenance have also been carried out. 'PAT' testing of electrical equipment was also undertaken.

The Hall continues to benefit from use of the playingfield as an over-spill car park following the gated access that the Parish Council installed to allow more accessible use of the playing field by pedestrians and vehicles. Our thanks to the PC for allowing its continued use.

For the past year the hall has been used by a regular weekly singing group and three pilates classes per week.
This is in addition to the Hall being used for several birthday parties, a baby shower, a local business consultation with residents, a local election, and use by the Parish Council for their meetings. The Hall has also hired out various items of its equipment to local residents.
The Hall also held its own successful summer quiz night.
We also benefitted from a quiz night held in conjunction with, and in, the Horse and Groom pub.
Bookings for a baby shower and christening celebration have also recently been received.

Further events being planned by the Hall include the return of our Christmas Fair in December and a possibly summer event along with another Quiz Night. The Hall will, as always, continue to be available to the local community for their use.

Thanks again to all the Management Trustees for their input to keep the hall in use for the community, and we look forward to another successful year.

Peter Dacey
Chair, CHE Village Hall Management Trustees
08 October 2026