

## **Annual Report of the Village Hall Committee to Rolleston Parish Council**

Rolleston Village Hall is in a good financial position at present, although we have very serious concerns about the future should the current proposal to build houses on the adjacent land take place. Fortunately there have been many objections to the application on a range of matters from anticipated problems with sewage overload, parking, and obstruction of the access to the hall during building, amongst others. Statutory bodies have also objected to some of the planned changes for technical reasons. We have been supported by a number of residents of the village, and have submitted our own objections to the planning department.

Hall bookings, looked after by Lucy Kyte, are currently strong, with an average of just over one booking every day. Some outside bodies use the hall during the day for training purposes and there are regular bookings for exercise and similar classes. The Wednesday coffee and lunch meetings continue to be well supported, and birthday parties quite frequently take place.

Live and Local music and drama events have taken place four times over the autumn and spring seasons, and it is planned to continue these, perhaps on Friday or Saturday evenings instead of the usual Thursdays.

After almost 20 years of wear and tear, the management committee have decided it is time to redecorate the hall to keep it in the top condition it needs if we are to maintain the high level of bookings. A quotation for the work has been accepted and will be carried out during the summer. Laura Bosworth has successfully worked hard to obtain donations of paint and other materials for which we are very grateful. We are also planning to upgrade our broadband and Wi-Fi systems, introduce new stage lighting which is easier to use and update our sound system as well.

The hall still requires fund raising activities to break even each year and we are grateful to Angela Sanders for running the Village Lottery and for everyone who takes part. We also run events to raise money for the hall, including the recent Abba Night and St Patrick's Day event.

We are very keen for new volunteers to join the committee to help to set the direction for the future and to make sure we are relevant and exciting to the residents of Rolleston and beyond. We would welcome anyone who is interested in getting involved - it isn't a big time commitment and everyone involved can make a big difference. We also would be grateful for any volunteers to help set up for events - this can be half an hour here and there to help set up chairs and tables.

We want the village hall to be a valuable community facility now and in the future. The current committee work hard to try to meet this ambition but we would love to see more members of the team to make sure we are meeting everyone's needs.