

**PAXCROFT MEAD COMMUNITY CENTRE.**  
**CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT - APRIL 2019 to MARCH 2020.**

We have had another good year at the Community Centre, maintaining a variety of regular users, party and commercial bookings.

We have continued to attract hirers from all over Trowbridge as well as from the surrounding towns in part due to the recommendation of the various activity providers such as About-a-Bounce, Bouncearoo and Active Trowbridge etc.

The Community Centre continues to operate on a very sound economic footing.

We continue to keep our hire rates low. We managed to keep our rates at the same level throughout the year, but they will be increased from 1st April 2020 to keep up with the rise of the fixed costs of running the Centre. Where we can, we have negotiated deals for our gas and electricity supplies which have helped. We are also grateful to Wiltshire Council for giving us maximum relief on the business rates.

However, towards the end of the financial year we were forced to close the Centre due to the COVID-19 outbreak and in consequence had to cancel many advanced bookings and our regular users. The unaudited figures of income for 2019 - 2020 are £36357.34, with the outgoings for 2019 - 2020 of £36716.48. The loss of £359.14 is solely due to booking refunds. We are hopeful that we will be able to weather this situation and hope to be able to re-open in July 2020. Thankfully with the building being closed, our utility costs substantially reduce. These are the main costs of running the building.

The programme to replace any failing light fittings with LED replacements continues to result in a considerable reduction in maintenance overheads and is proving to be worth the investment. In the foyer the old fluorescent fittings were replaced with recessed LED lights. These all provide a better light, cost savings and will not require any attention for many years. The toilet lights were also replaced with recessed LED light units.

The foyer walls have been re-painted, and the foyer carpet was replaced in August 2019.

Plans are still underway to refurbish all the toilets. The plan to carry out some remedial work in the men's toilets in early Summer was completed in July 2019. The urinals were all changed, and an electronic sensor was installed to control the flushing mechanism. This will save a large amount of water. The heating radiator was also replaced at the same time. The cost of this work was covered from our own funds and by a grant of just over £1532 from Trowbridge Area Board for which we are grateful.

I would like to record a big thank you to the members of the committee who have assisted with running the building and managing the booking meet and greets.

Alan Thirlwell continues to take the lion's share of welcoming visitors to the Centre along with Mark Gamble and Paddy Reeves.

I would particularly like to thank all the officers for their time and effort over the past year.

We are fortunate to have such a strong team of volunteers willing to put in the time and effort to run the Centre so smoothly. We are still under strength and would welcome some new volunteers.

Jonathan Hawkes. Sunday, 24<sup>th</sup> January 2021