

**PAXCROFT MEAD COMMUNITY CENTRE.  
CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT - APRIL 2020 to MARCH 2021.**

We started the year having been forced to close the Centre due to the COVID-19 outbreak and in consequence had to cancel all advanced party bookings along with our regular users. Initially this situation was quite worrying as we had no idea when we would be able to re-open fully. We had hoped to be able to re-open in July 2020, but this did not happen. With the building being closed, our utility costs substantially reduce and thanks to our charity status we do not pay business rates. The utilities are the main costs of running the building.

Although we were able to partially open for a few periods during 2020 it was only for small exercise type activities.

To help with the finances, our Treasurer applied for Government funding, and we were fortunate to receive a £10,000 grant (via Wiltshire Council) which helped enormously. This was followed by several other grants covering various aspects of running a business. We are also grateful to Wiltshire Council for giving us maximum relief on the business rates. This has meant our end of year finances are in particularly good shape.

While the building was shut, it did make it easier to organise necessary maintenance tasks.

These were: -

- Fitting hand sanitizer stations and signage in each of the toilets, foyer, kitchen and both halls
- All toilet flush and fill valves were replaced
- Boiler repairs and leaking pressure valve replaced
- Decorate toilets
- Fit stainless steel panel below serving hatch to protect the wall

Now the building is over 20 years old, parts of the building are beginning to wear out. Over the coming months we will be reviewing what needs to be done and prioritise anything urgent.

One thing the past year has taught us is the value of technology that can be used to host meetings virtually. To this end I will be proposing an Amendment to the Deed of Trust to allow virtual management and general meetings. (Sections 12.9 and 14.10)

I would like to record a big thank you to the members of the committee who have assisted with running the building. Thanks also go to our cleaner Marie Clift who opens the Centre each weekday.

I would particularly like to thank all the officers for their time, support, and efforts 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. Saturday, 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2021