

Great Easton Village Hall Chair's Report - April 2025

There have been more changes in the Village Hall committee this year, where we have said goodbye Eve Atkin and Kay Mitchell and welcomed Mandy Law (Treasurer), Bob Wilson (Parish Council rep) and Chris Stirrney. All the members of the committee have also been registered as trustees with the Charities Commission. We have also welcomed Claire Farrar who has taken the job of cleaner, with Jemima continuing to help out when needed.

The works undertaken last year to resolve the drain issue in the store room have been successful (along with regular inspections of the roof gully). We were unsuccessful in our grant application for solar panels, but hope to have better luck this year in claiming a Section 106 grant for improvements to the kitchen. We are grateful to the Maud Elkington Trust for the funding of two new benches for the garden which were a great benefit through the summer.

A structural survey was completed in September and did not find any major issues. Kieron Law has kindly volunteered to review the survey and advise on the priority of the smaller repairs that need to be undertaken.

Due to some incidents of dog fouling in the garden, we have installed a CCTV camera in the meeting room.

Anglian Water advised us of a water leak in the hall and after extensive investigation it was found to be an issue with the auxiliary water heater in the store room.

We held several successful events this year; the Open Gardens event was a great success and the Valentines Quiz was another sell out. We also celebrated Village Hall Volunteers Week, with an excellent window display coordinated by Mandy. Our big change to fundraising this year was the introduction of Final Friday Social each month as well as running the bar for the GEPOS promotions gigs. Driven by Bob and Kevin Chapman, this has been a significant boost to our regular income and is proving popular with the village community

As always, I would like to thank the committee for their ongoing help and support through this year.

Finally, I would like to thank the Crafternoon group who kindly funded the hanging baskets and also the following for their help this year:

- Alice and Andy Murdock for running the Valentines Quiz
- The Garden Task Force for keeping the garden in good order and Rectory Farm for the removal of bulk waste
- Rectory Farm, Phil Kendall and Phil Johnson for their kind donations