

Swarden Charter Hall

As for most people, the past 12 months has been a difficult time for the Trustees of the Charter Hall. In the Spring of 2020 we implemented a number of actions to ensure the Hall was as Covid-secure as possible for those wishing to use the premises. A number of societies and groups met during the summer and autumn months until the second lockdown precluded all but the Clerk to the Parish Council, who continued to run her office in the Dadson Room.

The one advantage of 'lockdown' has been that we have been able to carry out some refurbishment without disruption to hirers. Work on the carpark has also been scheduled to resolve the drainage problem in times of heavy rain. All regular servicing of security, fire, and central heating equipment continued, with associated cost implications.

Despite the lack of income over the year I am pleased to report that with some grants from government our finances remain stable.

In line with Boris Johnson's road map we are now starting to open the Hall and look forward to welcoming back all our regular groups and societies. Bookings are being made through to 2022 and I would encourage any who wish to use the Hall to contact our Hall Administrator.

Apart from Covid-19 the most notable event has been the resignation of our Chairman, Mike Barkway, and two of our long-serving Trustees; Carol Barkway and Eric Spear. Mike has, for the past 19 years, guided the Hall from its' inception to the current thriving, and much envied, 'village hall'. I'm pleased to say that he has agreed to stay on as a Trustee, as his advice and commitment to the Hall is valued. I should like to take this opportunity, on behalf of current and former Trustees, to thank Carol, Mike and Eric for all the time and effort they have contributed over the years to make the Hall the success it is today.

R. Craig

Chairman, Charter Hall Trustees

7th April 2021