

# Hatley Village Hall

## Chairman's report

8 May 2006  
Hatley Village Hall

The Village Hall surfaced after the meeting of the Parish Council on the 26th September 2005, the Parish Council agreeing to manage it for a trial period of two years. Hire charges were agreed to be competitive and hopefully affordable to the people of the village. A hire agreement was drawn up with the help of other village hall committees (although this will be amended to suit our requirements shortly).

We have slimmed down some of the outgoings – we have cancelled the alarm system and the phone installation and with regard to the Phonographic Performance license, it was decided to have individual licenses at £7 per session.

We also decided on a No Smoking policy trial for six months. The majority wishes this to continue. The law will be such that we will have to comply anyway in 2007.

So far the village hall has had £500 of hirings. The Hatley Villages Committee has raised approximately £400 so far and my sincere thanks to them for all their efforts. We have a yoga class on a Tuesday evening and a band practise on Monday evening – although we have had problems with the band not respecting our no smoking policy.

I have also had an enquiry from another band. We have advertised the availability of the hall in the *Gamlingay Gazette* and on neighbouring village noticeboards and appropriate websites.

The decoration work was carried out for a price of £1,450 – the lowest of four quotes received. Quotes for repairing the car park and modifying the electric system were considered too expensive to have the work carried out.

The cost of a replacement carpet came in at £988, but the contractor has since been in contact with me offering some very clean ex-yacht club carpet which he has offered to supply and lay for £150 as a goodwill gesture for the community. No decision has been made as yet.

The boiler has been our biggest expenditure at £500. It appears to be working properly. We seem to have two electric meters in the hall, which means our standing charges are more than our usage.

Thank you to Micky Astor for repair to the door and removal of the BBQ cover.

We are in the process of setting up a spreadsheet – this should be available very soon. I have been to two workshops and am in close contact with Little Gransden village hall. The network set up by Cambridgeshire ACRE is very useful for pooling advice, resolving problems and sharing experiences.

The Cricket club has, as a gesture of goodwill, been given the use of the hall for its home games for changing facilities and teas, free of charge.

I would like to take the opportunity of thanking Lyn Perry for her help.

Mr and Mrs Alexander from the Dower House have offered to have a Village Hall sign made as a parting gift to the village.

Sally Ward  
Chairman