

ACH Trustees' Report.

The Hall was bought from All Saints Church PCC on 1st. April 2019 through generous donations from many members of the local community and beyond. It is now run as a Community Resource Hall owned by ROPETH, a company with charitable status responsible for the Charitable Trust of the Angela Cobbold Hall.

Since the Hall has been under new ownership, a variety of additional facilities have been bought or donated through the generosity of local residents, corporate donors and the local council.

50 new chairs and 12 new tables have been purchased. Crockery and cutlery have been donated. For recreational use there is a table tennis table, a small pool table, a dartboard and a variety of board games. A piano and adaptable staging are also available. A large dance mirror has been installed for the use of dance and fitness groups, together with two exercise bikes.

There is also a large screen TV and sound system.

In addition to the main hall, there is a servery kitchen and a reading room suitable for small meetings and groups. This has outside access and can be used independently of the main hall.

Prior to the closure of the Hall due to Covid restrictions on the weekend of 21st|22nd March 2020, the main hall has been in regular use for the monthly Community Lunches, indoor bowls, Pilates and guides. A monthly Gardening Club and a Singing Group also met. The Reading Room was used for a knit and natter group and for committee meeting of FoTAH. Even when the Hall was closed, a successful collection for FIND was made in the porch at Christmas time, thus fulfilling one of our charitable aims.

When the Hall was forced to close, it was decided to use the opportunity to undertake major refurbishments. We were enabled to do this through the generous grants made by Lottery Grants Awards for All, East Suffolk Exemplar Grant, Biffa Award, Garfield Weston and the Rope Trust. The flat roof was replaced, the interior painted, the guttering renewed and double glazed windows installed. The front doors were repainted by volunteers. There are future developments, these include repainting the outside wall, additional storage for equipment, kitchen improvements and window curtains.

We discovered that the long neglected waste water/ foul water drainage system from the hall needed to be replaced. Whilst the Hall is not in use, we are actively pursuing solutions to this problem.

Not only are we a Community Resource and a Charity, we are endeavouring to be as carbon neutral as possible. We have installed double glazing and are updating to Led lighting. We are creating a wild life area to the rear of the Hall. To this end volunteers have already planted a native species hedge donated by the Woodland Trust.

1st March 2021