

Holbrook Village Hall CIO
Registered Charity No. 1215191
Photograph of Hall

History of Holbrook Village Hall and how it is managed today

The village hall was built almost 100 years ago on land gifted to the village by Dr Alfred Andrew in 1927. There was a major refurbishment of the hall in the early 1980s when a new extension provided the bar area, together with improved heating and insulation. This was achieved with much volunteer labour, local tradespersons and other villagers giving up their time freely to benefit the hall. Between 2004 and 2007 another extension was added to provide a foyer, new toilets and improved car parking facilities. Once again the villagers rallied round and provided much voluntary labour. This extension was opened by Mrs Pat Shepherd, Dr Andrew's granddaughter. The hall continues to be maintained and managed by a group of volunteers under the watchful eye of its chairman.

Conveniently situated in the centre of the village, the hall provides easy access for all including those with disabilities. The hall is surrounded by a Green suitable for outside events with a Bowls Club and a Quoits Club nearby.

Outside, the car park has restricted use for hall users enabling those using the hall a guaranteed parking space. Additional parking facilities are available for community use on the far side of the Hall Green.

The hall has a Premises Licence and Music Licence which permits music and dancing (but not the sale of alcohol) and can accommodate up to 120 people. There is free Wi-Fi inside the hall (with conditions – see policy further on these pages) and a LED projector available for use by hirers at no extra charge. It also has a stage suitable for performances.

The hall is held in trust by a Charitable Incorporated Organisation managed by a number of trustees primarily for the benefit of village residents. The trustees are made up of elected officers, appointed persons and representatives of village organisations. The hall is **not** managed by the Parish Council but councillors have always been very supportive of the trustees' efforts. All trustees are volunteers and meet on the first Monday of every month and all local organisations using the hall can have an appointed representative on the management committee. Any organisation wishing to do so who is not so represented should contact the Secretary (contact details below) for more information.

The hall exists primarily for the benefit of villagers and is available for anyone in the village to use. Accommodating local groups and individuals are a priority and our hire charges reflect this. The hire fees are kept as low as possible to benefit villagers, with reduced rates for local, regular hirers. Much of this is down to the trustees doing most of the maintenance work themselves but there are many expenses that cannot be avoided. These include heating, lighting, water, cleaning and insurance, which have all increased significantly in recent times as well as more major repairs which are beyond the capability of the trustees. The trustees are involved in fund raising activities. The biggest of those, in association with the Holbrook Events Team, is the village fete each year, which brings in much needed funds to support the maintenance of the hall. Another, in tandem with the Holbrook Boatowners Association, is 'Captain Blood', traditionally held in September each year.

The hall is also available for hire by those living outside the village. The conditions of hire for both regular users and non-regular users and current hire charges can be found further on these pages. Relevant policies and procedures pertaining to the hiring conditions can also be found there.

Further information is available from:

Les Jolley, Chairman on 07391 251700

Christine Ambrose, Secretary on 01473 328815

Catriona and Chris Herbert, Bookings' Secretaries, email: holbrookvh@gmail.com

For booking enquiries, please email the Bookings' Secretaries and supply name and address, reason for hire, regular or non-regular, date and hours required for booking (including setting up and clearing away) and email and phone contact.