

CHAIRS REPORT April 2019 to March 2020

It is great to see you all safe and well. As a management team we have been carefully watching and listening to the news and guidance that has been issued by the Government and Health Authorities. We are planning to open soon with limited services and groups using the hall.

I am raring to get back to the new normal, and whatever, we can and will make happen at the Village hall over the coming months.

Slimming World are keen to return on Saturday mornings.

We will open the Café on limited openings. We plan to start 2 days Wednesdays and Fridays and build on these openings as more groups and the daily classes and groups return to the hall.

It will be later in the year before we are likely to see any of our children's activities and groups return to the village hall.

To allow this all to happen we have carried out risk assessments and have documented how we can and will operate safely. We will all have to be on board and actively practising new ways of working.

Our hygiene practises will have to in place, all equipment and materials will be provided to staff and visitors.

Before we open we have to make contact with environmental health team at the council to inform them of our plans to open.

We will have completed a deep clean of the building and all the chairs tables and surface have been disinfected and sanitized. This cleaning will of course be repeated as often as is necessary. There are daily cleaning regimes that have always been in place these will be increased to several times a day. Thank you to all the volunteers.

Cleaning stations will be set up in the bathrooms and hand sanitizer will be available in all rooms for persons to use when they enter and leave a room or area of the building.

Has anyone got any points or clarification they want to discuss before we move onto the usual reports and business of the AGM and the Community meeting.

Moving on to the actual reports

So the rest of the year from our last AGM has been another busy year I am not going to go through the whole year but highlight in this report some of the great things that have taken place. Just as a way of reminding us all about the great work we do here for the continuation of the Village hall as a community building and asset

Where do I start as always there have been so many good classes and activities. We have welcomed several new groups and partnered with others to help and enhance what is offered here at the Village Hall. Baby Sensory classes have been a great success. Charlotte has worked hard and built a very successful Friday group so much so that they are here all day. Thank you Charlotte.

Baby Sing and Sign has also grown in numbers and has extended the hours at the hall. Baby Ballet is also well attended and busy.

Introduction to Boxing has been another successful new class. We worked with Bradford Youth Services the Parish Council and the Boxing Trainer to bring this to the Village Hall for our young people. Well attended and enjoyed by young people 12 years and older, hopefully helping our young people with a new pastime and sport to enjoy.

Youth Club on Monday nights continues to be well attended. Thanks to the Youth workers from Bradford Council who have a challenging role and always seem to be smiling. Any issues are quickly responded to and resolved.

We have the new Circuit training sessions on Monday night for the energetic ones.

Citizens Advice is a busy Thursday morning with appointments booked weeks in advance.

The coffee shop remains a very busy place offering great food and contact point for many of the customers. A special thanks to our team of Volunteers.

Playgroup is as busy as ever. Thanks to Karen and her team of carers and parents. The children enjoy a couple of hours of socialisation with lots of other children, and the child minders, Mums and Dads also get to catch up and have a natter.

Bingo, Craft group and Men's group continue to be well attended and enjoyed by many. Thanks to all the volunteer leaders of the groups. Unfortunately, due to ill health there have been changes to the Bingo team. I would like to wish Hazel and Ted all the best and say a big Thank you for all your years of great work to keep the Bingo going. And of course thank you to our new Bingo caller Nigel, and Pat for organising the important bingo books and prize money.

Cinema continues to be a popular 3rd Sunday evening of the month. I especially look forward to the films and a welcome drink and ice cream at the interval. The Matinées for children have been well attended. We are lucky to have such a great facility in Clayton. Another Parish Council supported activity. Thank you Andy Waterman Mazzer, Zac, Avril and the ice cream girls, Jenny and Ruth.

Applause theatre School continue to work hard and put on some brilliant shows and performances unfortunately these have had to be stopped for the foreseeable future. Which is a shame the Pantos are brilliant and I know a lot of hard work by everyone involved, goes into each and every performance. The children love it and learn so many life skills and grow in their personal confidence and wellbeing.

And of course Clayton WI. A fantastic group enjoyed by 65 members. Ladies who meet every month. With extra Craft evenings every 2 weeks. Activities and opportunity for ladies to socialise and meet. They are a very popular group and always willing to help and volunteer and work in partnership with the village hall and other groups in the locality. Thank you to their committee they work hard to make the WI a success.

Sadly, we lost a couple of our lovely volunteers. Gerald Ashfield and Jean Clayton. It was a great shock to us all that Gerald died so suddenly. I know he is missed by many of us. He will be remembered with love by us all at Clayton Village Hall he made a great contribution to our organisation and others in Bradford District.

Jean Clayton. I hope in my lifetime, I can be as strong and as giving as Jean was. She always had a smile and was a wonderful lady, we all miss her.

We have had several successes in our funding applications and have carried out further refurbs and updates to the hall. Eileen does a brilliant job with collating all the information quotes etc, and applying to funders of course this has all had to stop as the Corona virus impacted on the funders and their work all ceased for the time being. Eileen will give her report to give details of the successful bids.

There are so many things I could detail regarding all the different activities we have going on at the Hall but this report would be pages long.

Just before lockdown we hosted Ross Kemp and his film crew filming about "Addiction to Opiate prescribed drugs" the show was on ITV last week. The village hall was featured from the outside which was lovely to see. And we had another film crew here Yesterday filming for another ITV programme in Bradford. The Producers obviously like our building and what we can offer.

Looking forward to 2020/2021, what a start to another year at Clayton Village Hall. We went into lockdown just as we started our new financial year and the West Yorkshire Back Gammon Tournament was about to take place at the Village Hall the following weekend. Therefore, it has been postponed but hopefully it will happen later in the year.

We hope to get back to business as usual as soon as it is safe and possible to do so. Thank you to everyone involved and who attend all that we have going on here.

I just want to end with saying thanks to you, we are here still thriving despite the Corona, we will survive and keep this Village hall open and operating for Clayton and people from the wider Bradford community to enjoy.

Let us all make 2020 the year we recovered and came back stronger.

Chair Carol Thirkill June 2020