

AVH Annual Report for Annual Parish Meeting

It has been a great year for Alburgh Village Hall, with a high number of community events, private bookings, and volunteer participation. The hall continues to serve as the heart of our community, bringing people together through regular social gatherings, supporting the local school and providing a welcoming venue for private celebrations. This report highlights our key achievements, operational improvements, and community impact over the past year.

Facility Improvements

The committee has continued its commitment to maintaining and improving our village hall facilities:

- **Kitchen Fire Door Replacement:** Safety remains our priority, and we have successfully replaced the aging fire door in the kitchen area, ensuring compliance with current safety regulations and providing peace of mind for all hall users.
- **General Maintenance:** Regular upkeep has ensured the hall remains in excellent condition for all users and have included repairs to bar roof.
- **A more holistic review to our use of space** in hall with dedicated table and chair storage areas.
- Much of this work completed during working parties through the year.

Community Events

The hall has hosted a vibrant calendar of regular community events:

Bar Nights

- Now operating **weekly**
- Consistently enjoying good attendance from the community
- Completed **26 bar nights** in the past year
- These evenings have become a cornerstone of local social life

Community Cafés

- Held **28 community café sessions** throughout the year
- Providing an important daytime social hub, particularly for older residents
- Featuring bacon or sausage butties with tea or coffee for free to anyone that would like to come along

Special Events

- **New Year's Eve Disco:** Our end-of-year celebration
- **DJ-less Disco:** An innovative and successful community-led music event
- **Food Cart Evenings:** Regular appearances by local food vendors have become a popular feature in our events calendar

Supporting Local Schools

- Proudly hosted the Primary School's annual show

- Provided rehearsal space throughout the year

Usage Statistics

The hall continues to see strong demand:

- **Over 100 private events** hosted, including birthdays, weddings, and community group meetings

Volunteer Contribution

The hall's success is entirely dependent on our dedicated team of volunteers:

- **Over 1,500 hours** of volunteer time contributed
- 21 **active volunteers** supporting various aspects of hall operations
- Special recognition to our core committee members who oversee regular maintenance

Looking Forward

As we move into the next year, the committee has identified several priorities:

- Exploring grant opportunities for heating and power system upgrades
- Expanding our range of community events
- Recruiting additional volunteers
- Continuing to support local initiatives

Acknowledgements

The committee wishes to express sincere gratitude to all volunteers, users, and supporters who have contributed to another successful year for Alburgh Village Hall. Your continued involvement ensures this vital community asset thrives for years to come.