

Pontesbury Pavilion

Annual Report - 1st April 2021 to 28th February 2022

Since 1st April 2021, the Parish Council have managed Government COVID regulations changing, stopping and starting and we have worked closely with our partners within the building to help to ensure the building is a safe space to visit. Risk assessments have been updated and distributed as required by Gov rules.

The Pavilion is home to the Pontesbury Library, and continuing good working partnerships are very conducive and beneficial to the people of the parish and wider Rea Valley area.

During 2021, the Pontesbury Safer Neighbourhood Team moved into the building and a good rapport between staff was built and both organisations are very supportive of each other.

Meetings. To enable continuing good working relationships, both within the building and with our external neighbours. Two meetings have been set up; the Building Users Group (BUG) and Site Meeting with external partners, the Cooperative shop and Ark Nursery, . These meetings take place quarterly and have resulted in some very positive input from all partners.

The management of the building on a day to day basis lies with the Deputy Clerk, working in conjunction with the Pavilion working group members and reporting to Council on a monthly basis.

Hiring. The Pavilion now has 6 regular hiring organisations:

- Friends of Pontesbury Library (FOPL) - Library Reading Group
- Good Neighbours Scheme (GNS)
- Age UK
- Energize Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin
- Sea Change Trust -
- U3a - including Geology and Creative Writing groups

Working closely with these organisations means that advertisements and information about regular and up-coming events are also posted onto the SMART TV in the Pavilion, which was generously donated by FOPL following a grant from the Cooperative Community Fund.

Income through hire is picking up, but due to the high costs of Business Rates, the Pavilion will never be cost neutral, but this fantastic community facility continues to be well-used, with events and activities building month on month.

Feel Good Friday event was hosted by the Parish Council in the Pavilion on 19th November 2021. This was a dedicated event to Support Older People and Carers, and following this event a Dementia Support Café was set up by Age UK and Elevate STW were able to pass on the message about their chair-based strengthening exercises to help prevent trips, slips and falls.



Exhibitions have been regularly held in the Meeting Room. The local artist group were first to display their artwork, also holding launch drinks in the Pavilion. Since then other artists, the GNS and now Gill Scriven have hung their display on the walls of the Meeting Room. Everyone is welcome to come along and take a look.