

# the PAVILION

## Pavilion Community Hub & Library, Hall Bank, Pontesbury SY5 0RF ANNUAL REPORT 2022-2023

2022-2023 has been the first complete year when the Pavilion Community Hub & Library has been completely open for the community to use.

Throughout the year, more and more community groups have used the building, and this is demonstrated by the monthly event sheet which is now published; then distributed via an email list and put up on the noticeboard - anyone can put their email forward to receive this information.

New groups who have started to meet - to name a few:

- Wine-tasting group (with over 18 members) (Oenological Research Group)
- Age UK STW - Dementia Support Café
- Monthly Carer's events
- Get Creative group, which meet on 1st & 3rd Thursday of each month
- u3a have group meetings for specific interest groups
- Community Good Neighbours now run a Men's Group, also pop-up larders and grief chat sessions
- On a Monday the Pavilion is a Warm Place on the village weekly rota



Planters for Community Use. Planters were purchased for community use. The one pictured was provided for the Age UK STW Dementia Café to plant & it really did provide a colourful display of beautiful sunflowers, sweetpeas, oxide daisies, alongside other plants sown throughout the year. Pictured left are two Age UK volunteers with Anna.



In time for the Climate Change event, a bike rack was installed at the front of the building.

This is much used and a welcome addition to the fabric of the Pavilion.

Feel-Good Fridays - a few Friday events have been held over the last year.

One during Carer's Week, which has resulted in Shropshire Council, Age UK, Alzheimer's Society, Community Care Coordinator & Pontesbury Parish Council, all working together to run a monthly Carer's Group in the Pavilion.

Recycled plastic tables & chairs were purchased for the patio, along with the all-important parasol umbrellas. They look great and are well used in the good weather. The patio is such a sun-trap that the parasols provide welcome shade.



A further Get Creative Feel-Good Friday event was held in October 2022. Following this we ran a crochet workshop, and then set up a Get Creative group, which now meets twice monthly.

The next Feel Good Friday is 24th March 2023 with the theme 'Get Active'. Come along and see what groups are available locally to take part in.



The Crochet Workshop and members of the community knitted, crocheted and hand-crafted pumpkins for a lovely autumn display in the Pavilion patio. FoPL also provided a huge real pumpkin and people were invited to guess the weight.



Christmas was a celebratory time in the Pavilion. Decorations were put up internally by Anna and Bev, from the Library, and the Parish Council provided a Christmas tree once again for the central space between all buildings. This was decorated by stars and lights, and a big thank you to Brian Simmonds, who put up all the lights outside the Pavilion and on the Christmas tree, your voluntary work is very much appreciated.



2022 saw national celebrations for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. The Pavilion joined in with the village scarecrow creativity, Cllr Sharon Davies and Anna, the Building Assistant, made Bill and Ben, the Flowerpot Men, which was proudly displayed outside the Pavilion.

Following the sad announcement of the death of Queen Elizabeth II, the Pavilion became a focal point where people could sign a book of condolence.



These books of condolence are held in the Royal Archives for posterity.



### Day-to-Day Running of the Pavilion

Both the Deputy Clerk and the Building Assistant continue to work closely to run the behind-the-scenes operations of the Pavilion.

The Pavilion Committee have had discussions with the Shropshire Council Area Library Manager, and shelving has been swapped about, to enable Pontesbury Parish Council staff to more easily move the shelving for events and activities. Thanks go to Beverly Link, Library Manager, and Anna Lawson, for moving all the books around, maintaining the order and for continuing to offer a great Library and great community building.

The Pavilion Committee continues to meet on the third Monday of each month and is chaired by Cllr Duncan Fletcher, with Councillors, Nick Hignett, Roger Evans, Sharon Davies and Adrian Windows as Committee members.

The Pavilion Committee oversee the work in the Pavilion, along with receiving reports and quotes for larger projects. This committee has delegated responsibility for up to £5,000 project spend, with all other projects with a higher spend, along with contractual agreements being recommended to full council for formal resolution.

## Room Hire

In FY 2021-2022 Pavilion room hire income was £1,134. The budget for FY 2022-2023 is £2,500 and to date (10th March 2023) the Parish Council have received approximately £3,848.62 income for Pavilion room hire.

Hiring of the rooms has also increased, the total number of room bookings in 2021-2022 was 126, this includes paid hiring and hiring not paid for, ie, for Council meetings, Council events, Friends of Pontesbury Library bookings. From 1st April 2022 to 10th March 2023 there have been a total of 397 bookings, with an average of 450 people visiting the building per month, this includes Library visitors.

Financial Year	No of Bookings	Income from Room Hire
2021-2022	126	£1,134.00
1 Mar 2022 - 10 Mar 2023	397	£3,848.62

A snapshot of bookings was taken for the month of February 2023, with the following results:

	No of people attending	No of hirings
February bookings	275	34 bookings
Events 1 Mar 2022 - 10 Mar 2023	526	22 events

The Pavilion Committee have now agreed Partnership Hire Agreements with Friends of Pontesbury Library (FoPL), Pontesbury & Rea Valley Community Good Neighbours Scheme (CGNS) and Pontesbury Climate Emergency Action Group (PCEAG). This Partnership Hire Agreement has laid out specific hire rates with all three organisations in recognition of the special partnership that the Parish Council has with them.

Therefore, in the coming months the Pavilion income will slightly increase. This increase of income will help greatly with the payment of utility expenditure, due to the rising energy costs.

Income is also received from:

- Shropshire Library Service = £5,000 per annum to hire the Library shelving space and office during Library opening hours (18 hours per week)
- West Mercia Police = £4,000 per annum for rental (plus a percentage of running costs as a service charge) of the dedicated Local Policing Team office and 24/7 access to the building.

**Promotion** The staff team continue to work to raise the buildings profile, advertise events on the SMART TV (donated by FoPL with Coop funding), noticeboards, promotions in the Village Newsletters and on a dedicated Facebook page, which has 626 followers.

**Climate Emergency** The Pavilion Committee are working with Marches Energy Agency who are providing support to Town and Parish Councils to baseline and develop their own Net Zero Carbon plans. This is an ongoing project, with a view to installing alternative means of generating energy for the Pavilion.

**Summary** The Pavilion use has increased and many more people are now visiting this lovely community building. In recognition of the building & the promotion, the Council is being approached by more and more business and departmental training hirings, along with more regular hirings and services being provided for the community. The Pavilion continues to be an asset for Pontesbury.