

BATHEASTON PARISH COUNCIL

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

TUESDAY 23RD MAY 2023

YOUTH CLUB REPORT

It has been a comparatively quiet year for the Youth Club due to Covid raising its ugly head from time to time and Parents being very cautious about letting their children have too much freedom, but in spite of this in the last 14 weeks we had 516 young people attending the Youth Club.

During the Pandemic our Youth Leaders were able to keep in touch with our Members through WhatsApp making sure all was well with them.

Youth Connect has very kindly given the Club a New Smart TV, four laptops and a printer. We unfortunately have a very weak internet connection and our Treasurer is trying to sort this out but this is proving quite a challenge as for some reason the Youth Club does not exist in spite of having a postcode and has been in existence since 1961.

We held several BBQs for them during the summer holidays and opened the Club so they had somewhere to meet, but this was done on a daily basis as we find during the School holidays quite a number of our young people go away and numbers are low. Our Christmas Party was very well attended, plenty of food provided and fruit non-alcoholic cocktails were very well received.

We have now been granted a new Lease for seven years from St John the Baptist Church so I am now applying for Grants to replace our roof so that it can be insulated from the outside to help save electricity.

Our revenue from lettings has decreased a considerable amount as the Children's Parties, of which we used to have many, has now moved into our lovely New Village Hall but we still have The Curtis School of Dance, Kung Fu and a Senior Table Tennis Team.

Hot Drinks and snacks are offered every session and we are very lucky to have this subsidized by Smiths Charity for the less well off, so no one goes hungry.

Different activities are organised for each session. We have available Table Tennis, Basketball, Pool, TV games, a separate TV for music and programmes, and three Computers which sometimes are used for homework or to find out information. The Sports Hall is used every session for Football.

Last but not least I would like to thank St John the Baptist Church, The Smith Charity, people from the Village who give to Local Giving for the Youth Club and especially the Parish Council for all the financial help which they have given us over the years but unfortunately they were unable to help when we applied this time owing ^{to} finances being low. I really must emphasise at this point that the Youth Club really cannot survive

without the help of the Parish Council as to run a Youth Club without qualified Staff is unacceptable. The finance which we receive from the Parish Council is used entirely for Staff salaries and the Youth Club has to raise £3,000 to £4,000 on top of this to keep the Youth Club running.