

Background Information for Parish Council Meeting Nov 2021

Batheaston Youth Club has provided support for young people in the village for nearly 60 years. It provides a “drop in” facility for the young people and their friends on two evenings per week, 44 weeks per year and offers a range of activities and support services.

The attached list shows the area’s our members come from for 2019 & 2020, we were closed for most of 2021. As you can see the majority come from Batheaston.

There are 3 computers for the use of the young people also for staff to assist them with homework and to help them print anything they require particularly for those members who have not got the facilities at home.

The staff provide some hot food, at a small charge (especially for the members who have had no tea before coming to club) such as beans on toast, toast with spreads, pizzas, pot noodles served with hot chocolate, tea or coffee if required.

Some parents have an evening job and know their children are safe during club hours.

Sport and Craft activities are always available.

Staff are always available if Members have any problems which they may share in complete confidence.

We do take members on activity weekends and outings such as ice skating with the help of grants and donations from other organisations.

During the lockdown the staff were very mindful of our young people’s mental health therefore members have been able to contact the staff confidentially, at any time, via a WhatsApp group to discuss any issues or problems they may have.

The Pandemic hit us very hard as we have had no lettings for a considerable amount of time which meant no income, and also no income from members subscriptions. Our treasurer applied and was successful in obtaining grants from BANES during the pandemic.

Electricity, Insurance, staff wages and national insurance and all other running costs, still have to be paid. In the year's accounts 2019/2020 Electricity amounted to £941, Insurance £1,855 and staff wages £10,272. If the Batheaston Parish Council had not been able to grant us £9,500, we would have finished £5359 in deficit for the year.

In the year's accounts 2020/2021 the BANES grants that we successfully applied for amounted to £19431, will we have to use some of this grant towards the Youth Club's much needed new roof. Batheaston Parish Council grant was £2000. If we are successful in our application to the Batheaston Parish Council this year then we will be able to contribute more of our funds to the roof as well as applying for other funding. Electricity amounted to £1049, Insurance £1,907 and staff wages £10,282.

We hold a trustees building reserve of £14,740 which is set aside for the maintenance of the building.

It would be lovely to be able to run the Club with Volunteers but if you have 25 to 30 Members arrive and then a volunteer rings to say they cannot make it that evening then under Health and Safety rules we would have to close the club immediately.

We finally re-opened the youth club on Tuesday 12th October 21, to the delight of all the young people.

For the security of the youth club in the future we are dependent on the Batheaston Parish Council very generous contributions continuing.