

## **Mendlesham Community Centre Charity Chairs and Financial report for the AGM 5.5.21**

### **Chairs report:**

Due to the Covid crisis, the community centre closed for public use on 19th March 2020. In October/ November 2021 for a short period, we were able to open the Small Hall for regular users with Covid mitigation/risk assessments in place and a temporary hire fee structure. Our Community Centre Co ordinator resigned September 2021 so cleaning was undertaken by volunteers and administration the Parish Clerk. Reimbursement for the Parish Clerk's time in these matters has been charged back to the Charity.

Whilst our hire income has been significantly affected, receipt of Government Covid Support funds has meant we have not had to be concerned about our financial situation due to closure or additional costs of reopening.

During closure during the second and third National Lockdown, in really difficult circumstances and a ridiculous time scale we were approached to sell the Community Centre owned parts of the building, old preschool garden and carpark to provide a SEND unit and room for the school to grow. After an independent valuation and negotiations, this has been agreed in principle, excluding sale of the car park. However there is still more work to do and be agreed before a sale can take place.

We then need to build a new community building. Details, location still need to be agreed. We have researched other funding sources, possibility of planning permission, other similar projects and consider whilst this project will have to be our first priority and take up the majority of our community resources, it is achievable. It will also provide us with community facilities fit for purpose and our growing community needs for many years to come. Our existing facilities are not sustainable and will not be, even with significant investment.

### **Mendlesham Community Centre Charity, Financial Accounts for the year ending 31.3.21 :**

The year end 31.3.21 shows a much improved financial situation with an increased year end figure of £27,273.35 compared to the year end 31.3. 20 £13,431.24

However, this is due to Covid Grants received of £20, 708 with hire income only £1874, the majority being hire fees outstanding prior to the first National Lockdown.

If the planned sale does not go ahead, the grant monies received will be very much needed to cover overheads, whilst community confidence in events and hire of the building return.