

Broadbridge Heath Village Centre Management Committee Chairman's Report 2019

As well as the normal tasks of ensuring the smooth running of the hall, maintenance of the building and tidying the outside area, this year has been very busy with work starting on the major redevelopment of the centre.

The redevelopment process is now fully underway. Uprise were selected as the main contactors and work is progressing well. The first stage of the project is to move the Social Club to the area previously occupied by the Sea Cadets. The club will now be far more open, light and welcoming, with large windows looking out over the field. The move should be complete in January.

Where the Social Club is currently, there will be two small halls, a food preparation area and some storage. The current office will still be available as a meeting room. The main hall will have a much lighter aspect and it will be completely refurbished. We will be able to split the building at various points, giving different size halls, each with their own facilities.

Work is being phased to avoid the total closure of the building at any time. The only major disruption will be the closure of the main hall, but during this time the two new smaller halls will be available.

There will also be considerable landscaping, to open up the vista across the old by-pass towards the new Neighbourhood Centre. The downgrading of the road will make the Village Centre far more a part of the new development and will be at the centre of the village. This will help merge the new and older parts of the village.

The main objectives will be to make the Centre, especially the main hall, lighter and more inviting. The layout will also be changed to offer a wider range of facilities which will be better suited for the requirements of users.

Due to the impending re-development, no major renovations have been undertaken in the in the last year.

The trustees have been working with the Parish Council as a separate Development Working Group. It has been a long process which has had to progress one step at a time and has required many meetings.

Many thanks to all the volunteer trustees. A huge amount of work has had to be put in by everyone in the last year. Paul, Pete and myself have also been very busy with the extra meetings involved in the re-development. Pete, with his wealth of experience has been very busy with frequent visits to the site, for which we are very grateful.

Special thanks must also go to Phil, who does a sterling job managing both the Social Club and the Centre.

The Trustee Committee meets about once a month and if anybody is interested in joining us please speak to me to find out what is involved.

Colin Edwards
Chairman Broadbridge Heath Village Centre Management Committee