

Village Hall Bookings and Finances

The hall was booked for Grafham and Ellington Art Club exhibition on June 28th and 29th and this weekend it is the Grafham Beer Festival.

The booking of the village hall and astro court is now done online via the Grafham website and seems to be working well.

The Village Hall is currently booked on a weekly basis for 10 sessions, being Line Dancing, Pilates (x2) Band practice (2 hrs), Art Club (3 hrs), Little Fishes (2 hrs), Karate (x3), dance class and Tang Soo Doo.

Tea and Chat is still on the last Thursday of the month and is well supported.

The Hall is also used on a monthly basis by the Parish Council and Tea & Chat.

The cost of hiring the Hall from 1st October 2023 is £11 an hour for village use and £16 an hour outside the village. Payment for private events is required when bookings are made.

Village Shop

The year ending figure for March 2025 have been announced

The shop has moved from a loss to a profit an improvement of +147%

This should improve a business case for a grant application for a replacement shop

Village hall

The committee met last week in which it reviewed the first few months of the Hall master system

Unfortunately the door entry system malfunctioned and it was subsequently replaced by David Russell.

All of us are getting used to the electronic calendar system

MVAS

The MVASs are located as they will be when we receive the solar panels:

- By the Cinnamon (monitoring traffic towards Ellington).
- Opposite Chestnut Close (monitoring traffic from Buckden/Perry).

Morelock have had supply issues and not yet been able to provide us with the solar panels, and I currently do not have a delivery date.

In April, a Bluetooth connectivity problem was discovered on the MVAS by the Cinnamon, preventing the download of data and changing of the display. Further investigation with Morelock

has concluded in a workaround using a serial data cable plugged into the MVAS. This allows data to be downloaded and display images changed, but does require access via a ladder.

The MVAS pole in the 40 mph buffer zone south of the village has been knocked down by a car. MVAS data from this location showed very little speeding in either direction, being sited very close to the bend. Consequently, we have made very little use this post.

Wild Flower Meadow

A local resident has informed us of the presence of bee orchids on the playing field. Regrettably, this was discovered after the grass had been cut. I am currently attempting to locate the orchids to prevent further mowing in those areas. Once the grass meadow has been established, we can relocate the orchids.

I have requested a meeting be scheduled with Ian and the grass cutting company to establish a timeline for the creation of the new meadow and the erection of suitable fencing to delineate the area.

Highways

I have nothing to report on highways and pavements this month.