

## YOUR VILLAGE HALL NEEDS YOU!

Since 1966 the village has been making use of the village hall which has been managed by a volunteer group (the Trustees) and maintained, improved, upgraded and looked after for the benefit of the community. Unlike many similar halls in the area, the Church Minshull Village Hall has been used primarily by residents of the village and members of local community rather than those from out of the area. **However, the Village Hall now faces a serious existential problem.**

To maintain compliance with both the Village Hall Constitution and the conditions set out by the Charity Commission there is an absolute requirement for us to have a minimum of Trustees, some of which encompass 'legally specific' roles such as the Chair, Secretary and Treasurer, as well as other Trustee roles that make the running of the hall possible.

With one long-standing Trustee having recently stepped down and the existing Chair wishing to step back after over 20 years' service, the Trustees are desperately seeking to appoint at least 3 new members. Invitations put out to others to fill these vacancies have so far been declined leaving the current Trustee membership perilously low to the extent that if they cannot be filled, there is a very real danger that the hall cannot operate within its Constitution **and will therefore be forced to close temporarily, or even worse, permanently.**

Being a Village Hall Trustee is not an onerous role (even the 'biggest' jobs only occupy a couple of hours per month) but all of them are essential if the future of the Hall is to continue. The principal role of a Village Hall Trustee is to maintain and uphold the Village Hall Constitution to ensure that the building is maintained, promoted, and run as a community facility. Trustees meet about 5/6 times per year (generally for about an hour) with most day-to-day matters being addressed by e mail or telephone. No pre-existing qualification or experience is required to become a Trustee save only for a willingness to preserve and maintain the Village Hall as an essential part of the life of Church Minshull.

We especially need to fill the vacancy for a Bookings Secretary who is essentially the first point of contact for hall hire enquiries and working with the Treasurer to ensure that hall hire booking forms are completed as required. Most booking enquiries are generated and processed electronically.

Whether you are an active participant in the activities that take place in the Village Hall or someone who simply believes that the Village Hall is an integral part of the fabric of the village whose future should be preserved, then please step forward and become a Trustee, **as without new Trustees, 2023 could be the year that Church Minshull Village Hall closes!**

If you are able to help, or just want some more information on what is involved, please get in touch with David Barrett (the current Chair of Trustees) on 07780 601360 or 60davidb@gmail.com or any other Trustee.

Thank you

May 30 2023