

BUCKLESHAM VILLAGE HALL

HELD IN TRUST BY BUCKLESHAM PARISH COUNCIL

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REPORT FOR PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday 9th September 2026

It has been another very busy few months for the Village Hall Committee.

To help celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Hall, the Committee organised a 'birthday' party for all children and grandchildren of Bucklesham and it was a huge success. The Hall was filled with giggling party-goers participating in traditional games from the 1970s such as musical chairs, pass the parcel and pin the tail on the donkey. This was followed by a 1970s buffet complete with cheese puffs, cheese and pineapple hedgehogs, and jelly and ice-cream. A great time was had by all!

The entrance hall has been decorated in a calming sage green and it looks much smarter and more welcoming ready for the Village Hall Open Day on 12th September. The Hall will be open from 11am to 3pm. This is a free event, with complimentary tea coffee and cakes to show residents what the Hall has to offer them and their families. Representatives from all Hall user groups will be there.

To ensure the Hall is up to legally required standards, the Committee commissioned a Fire Risk Assessment, a Legionnaires Survey and an Asbestos Survey. Following receipt of the reports, there are a few things that the Committee will action but on the whole, the Hall was given a clean bill of health.

Undeterred by the failure of a grant application to Valencia for the kitchen refurbishments, the Committee tried again, but this time for an East Suffolk Council Thriving Communities Grant – and this time, we had success! With the money already in the bank, we have booked the work to take place in February '27. Improvements will be made to the kitchen, and we will knock through from the kitchen to the committee room, making it possible to hire the Hall to two separate groups at the same time. This will generate more revenue for the Hall, but will also enable us to host more groups.

To finish the year long 50th anniversary celebrations, the Hall is hosting a Beetle Drive on Friday 23rd October. This fun fast-paced dice game is suitable for the whole family and will be a great way to round off the summer of fun.

Cllr Lynda Seagroatt