

Marlingford Village Hall in Lockdown

Sadly, our Village Halls have become no-go areas thanks to the pandemic, which has made it impossible to re-open our doors since they had to close last March. However, in Marlingford we have taken the opportunity to make some much-needed repairs, improvements and redecoration at the Village Hall. The work would have been difficult to accomplish whilst the Hall was in use.

All the windows and doors have been replaced to provide much better insulation and improve access. Doorways have been widened to allow easy access for wheelchairs and buggies (though we await the arrival of a number of doors due to supply-chain issues!). Some radiators have been repositioned. The toilets have been totally refurbished to give better disabled access and baby changing facilities, and will be a lot warmer too! New low energy light fittings make the Hall much better and more efficiently illuminated for the many Art Groups, and other organisations who use the Hall in the evenings. There is now a serving hatch to the kitchen area which should improve serving facilities.

These improvements have been paid for by fundraising pre-covid and grants applied for by the committee. We are determined to keep our Village Hall fit for purpose as a well-used and popular community hub where friends and neighbours can meet, share, learn, celebrate, vote, and enjoy each other's company. It is not until we lose such facilities that we realise how important they are to keep our Village alive and thriving.

All is now ready for a grand re-opening as soon as we can welcome everybody back. We are looking forward to seeing all the art groups, fitness sessions, film shows, talks and regular users back in the Hall, and we are already planning for new events in the coming year as soon as we are all able to get together again. We welcome your support. If anyone would like to book the hall in advance for an event/party/group, or get involved with the organising committee please get in touch.

Chris Whiting
Chair, Marlingford Village Hall Committee