

Robert Major

From: Clerk@barton-pc.org.uk
Sent: 11 January 2021 18:26
To: Robert Major
Subject: Barton Village Hall

Good Afternoon Robert,

Further to our recent discussions regarding Barton Village Hall and Community facilities that exist in Barton , I have included below the responses to your questions, which have been provided by Parish Councillor [REDACTED] who is the village hall booking secretary and also a trustee of the village hall.

What is the community building?

Barton Village Hall is situated on the A6 with excellent parking facilities. Attached to the site are weather tennis courts and a bowling club. The facilities work together to provide facilities for the local and surrounding area. The hall is run by trustees (volunteers) who all live in the village & provides opportunities for all residents. The whole site is secure and covered by CCTV. Consists of a main events hall with full size dance floor, comfortable seating for 150, with or without tables, large screen projector and sound system with WiFi connectivity and variable lighting to suit the various activities that take place. Dining room / meeting room with tabled seating for 64, Fully equipped kitchen with crockery and cutlery for events. Car parking for over 100 cars with easy access to the A6.

What activities go on there?

Bookings for the village hall are a mix of village events - the WI meet monthly and regularly hold a variety of courses including painting and art club for members. Socials for the local church and school are held regularly throughout the year. The hall is also used for parties, wedding receptions for local residents. External events (outside the PR3 area) include patchwork club, dances, craft and antique fairs are held monthly, bi-monthly and weekly. Bingo evenings are held from September to March, this is a very social evening, drawing in a lot of participants from the local area and the wider community, which is run by the volunteers to provide funds for maintaining the site. It is also used for pre-school events - Rugby Tots. It is used as polling station for local and general elections and often used for hustings.

What is it also suitable for?

It has two areas available for letting, the main large hall and a smaller area for small clubs or meetings . The main hall having capacity for 180+. There is WiFi and an excellent sound system and screen, with the ability to screen films, events etc. There are excellent kitchen facilities to allow for commercial cooking.

How often is it open (days and hours)?

The hall is available to hire 7 days a week - 364 days a year from early ([6.00am](#) - 12.00midnight +)

How well does the extant building cater for community activities in Barton?

The hall caters for all from Bonfire Night to PTFA events, Church socials to 21st birthday parties. Over 50% of hirers and users come from outside the parish of Barton and this is important to provide an income to maintain the hall. Would there be enough to support 2 community venues ?

Will the building proposed as part of this application add much to what is already on offer? (for info the appellant is claiming the new building will provide opportunities for both existing and proposed residents to utilise the facility for indoor sport provision, performances, meetings and parties/events)

Any community hall would need to provide something different for example outdoor all weather sports pitches or a MUGA?

We have a number of football teams seeking facilities in the village as Myerscough college is oversubscribed so 3g pitches would be beneficial with associated infrastructure. It would need to deliver an entirely different offer to that that the current village hall delivers to ensure that the two do not compete.


As a Parish Council we are in receipt of CIL funding through developments that have taken place in our village that are eligible for CIL. In the last 12-15 months the parish council have invested substantially, through our CIL receipts, in the existing Village Hall and adjacent bowling club to try and support a 'Community Hub' for the village. The tennis club also have plans to expand the club and its facilities and we continue to discuss possible funding streams to assist them. Any future CIL funding could offer a match funding option for developments at the Tennis Club which would bolster the existing offer.

As a parish we are also in the process of developing a neighbourhood plan which is currently at Regulation 14 Consultation stage. As part of our consultation we are seeking to identify the site and assets in the village that matter the most to the parishioners and which facilities they feel are missing and required. We envisage that the current Village Hall site will remain an important asset for the village and as a Parish Council we are very much dedicated to continuing to support the creation of a 'Community Hub' on the existing Village Hall site which is owned by the Parish Council.

I trust that this helps but if you require any further information from us at this time then please do not hesitate to contact me.

Many thanks

Kind regards


Responsible Financial Officer & Clerk to Barton Parish Council (Lancashire)

