

---

## Marsworth Village Hall Charity (Marsworth Social Centre) Year-End Report 2026

---

### Introduction

This report provides a summary of activity, developments, and achievements at Marsworth Village Hall over the past year. It has been a year of significant change and steady progress, both in terms of leadership and improvements to the Hall itself.

---

### Committee Changes and Governance

The past year has seen notable changes within the management committee. Our long-serving Chairman, Dick Brake, retired in June after many years of dedicated service to the Village Hall.

Following his retirement, Iain Puddephatt was appointed as the new Chair. Since then, there have also been changes to the roles of Secretary, Treasurer, and Vice Chair. Despite these transitions, we have maintained a strong and committed core committee of circa 10 members who continue to oversee the effective running of the Hall and its activities.

---

### Hall Usage and Bookings

Bookings have remained consistent throughout the year, reflecting the continued importance of the Hall as a central community asset. We are pleased to report that many regular user groups continue to hire the Hall, including the Rainbow Preschool

### Building Improvements

Over the past year, several enhancements have been made to improve both functionality and user experience.

The Hall's heating system was enhanced, improving comfort and energy efficiency.

- The Hall's heating system was enhanced, improving comfort and energy efficiency.
- New Website and booking system.
- A new media system was installed, consisting of:
  - Large screen in the main hall with projector and integrated sound system.
  - Television monitors in both the Committee Room and the Mike Frost Room.
  - Wi-Fi coverage.

These upgrades have modernised the Hall's facilities and broadened its suitability for presentations, events, training sessions, and community gatherings.

---

### Fundraising and Community Support

The Marsworth 100 Club, organised by committee member Stef, continues strongly and enjoys good support from village residents.

A major highlight of the year was the Firework Event held in November. Organised by the committee, the event was very well attended raising circa £5,000 (after expenses) for the hall charity.

---

### Community Engagement

To better understand the needs and interests of residents, we recently distributed a questionnaire via social media seeking feedback on the types of events villagers would like to see hosted at the Hall. The response was extremely positive, with strong engagement and a range of constructive suggestions.

Popular ideas included:

- A summer ball
- A hog roast or barn dance
- Quiz nights
- Coffee and chat sessions

The feedback gathered will help us develop a more tailored and relevant programme of community events for the year ahead

---

### Looking Ahead

While this report focuses on the past year, it is worth noting that subject to funding, we have several potential improvement projects under consideration. These include curtains for the main hall, exterior decoration, landscaping works,, and the installation of an electronic entry system with security cameras.

Further updates on building projects and community events will be provided over the coming year.

---

#### Conclusion

Overall, this has been a year of transition, consolidation, and steady improvement for Marsworth Village Hall. Despite changes in leadership, the Hall remains financially stable, well-used, and supported by the local community. The committee remains committed to maintaining and enhancing this important village asset for the benefit of all residents.

Iain Puddephatt - Village Hall Chairman

---