

# DOWNHAM VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE



The Coronavirus pandemic has had a very negative effect on our fundraising and sadly all our proposed functions for the year since March have had to be cancelled. There is nothing now planned until further notice. We have worked hard to make the Hall Covid-19 secure and are now able to accept bookings subject to lawful use and government guidance. See our website for details of our Risk Assessment and Terms & Conditions of Hire etc.

There have been ongoing discussions about the unauthorised use of the parking spaces at the Hall and in the main car park and we have reluctantly concluded that we have no choice but to introduce some restrictive measures. There is now a chain across the entrance to the Hall in order to discourage such abuses and we will in due course effect similar restrictions to the main car park.

The site around the Hall has been cleared by Members of the Management Committee with grateful assistance of some neighbours. It's looking really good now, but it is an ongoing task, particularly with Autumn now upon us!

Our new website is up and running at [www.downhamvillagehall-essex.co.uk](http://www.downhamvillagehall-essex.co.uk) and our email is [contact@downhamvillagehall-essex.co.uk](mailto:contact@downhamvillagehall-essex.co.uk). We are working on a Facebook page.

The standard hire rate is £15 per hour, minimum 2 hours, for every day of the week. For regular hirers special arrangements are available - call our Bookings Secretary on 07732 709926. In certain circumstances a £200 deposit may be required. Full Terms & Conditions etc. are on our website.



## DOWNHAM WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

On 9<sup>th</sup> November 2020 Downham W.I. celebrates 100 years. Our Institute started in people's homes until 1927/28 with just 15 members and over the years we have been fortunate enough to encourage more ladies to join us. To have been going for 100 years has been a marvellous achievement for a small village including the surrounding villages in the Parish and we hope it will continue. Unfortunately, due to the coronavirus pandemic, we have had to cancel all our meetings and celebrations for this year. Hopefully, we plan to be back in Downham Village Hall in 2021 all being well. The Committee is planning to have photographs taken on 9<sup>th</sup> November outside the village hall, social distancing of course! These photographic records will show future W.I. Members what happened during 2020. When we are able to restart meetings, we will let people know via this Newsletter and the Herald magazine and maybe you may like to come along and join us. Further details can be obtained from Sylvia Baldry on 01268 574115.