

BDF VILLAGE HALL SURVEY 2026 - REPORT



RESIDENTS OF BOURTON DRAYCOTE & FRANKTON HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO COMPLETE A SURVEY ABOUT THE VILLAGE HALL.

It was conducted to obtain the community's views about our village hall and help ensure its future.

Every household received a paper copy, with an option to complete online.

SUMMARY

What did the responses tell us?

- We received a great response to the survey - 80 responses, which equates to 40% of our 199 households*
- Over 42% of households in both Frankton and Bourton responded, just less than 30% in Draycote
- However, we only had one response from people younger than 30, and only one said they had children under 10; 84% of respondents were aged 56+
- Many of the responses were extremely positive:
 - Only two respondents disagreed that "we need a village hall for the whole community"
 - 86% claim they attend BDF events
 - 76% said they would consider making a financial donation
 - 58% said they would consider volunteering (but 4/5 of these said in the future not now)
 - Almost all respondents said they knew what was happening at the hall, 95% from the Village Hall newsletter, plus word of mouth, Facebook, emails or posters
 - There were lots of nice comments about the hall's condition and facilities
- However, although 3/4 respondents consider themselves "hall users", less than a quarter said that they used the hall at least once a month at the moment
- Arts & Crafts (33 responses), Gardening (30), Music/drama (24) and History (22) were all popular suggestions for more activities, and there were lots of other suggestions

So what does this mean?

- The extremely high response rate shows there's lots of goodwill for the hall in our villages.
- It's reasonable to assume that those who feel positive were a lot more likely to respond in the first place but encouraging that even amongst this 'engaged group' there seems to be a lot more potential for use, volunteering and financial support.
- The very small number of people with young children who responded suggests we have an engagement issue with young families (although they may have been too busy to respond!) It seems likely that this group might be interested in a different set of activities, but we'd have to find another way of identifying what those might be.
- There are lots of individual comments that we can reflect on, but we need to bear in mind that they may only reflect one or a few people's views.

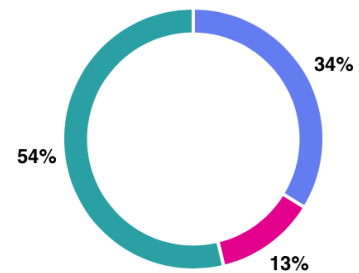
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Section 1 – About you

1. Where do you live?

Number of responses

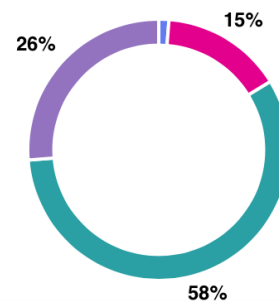
- 27 Bourton
- 10 Draycote
- 43 Frankton



2. What is your age group?

Number of responses

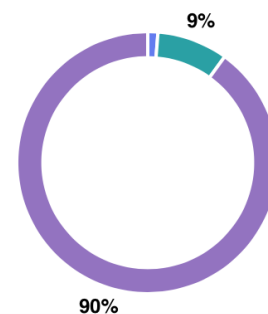
- 1 18-30
- 12 31-55
- 46 56-70
- 21 70+



3. In your household, are there any children? Please tick all age groups that apply

Number of responses

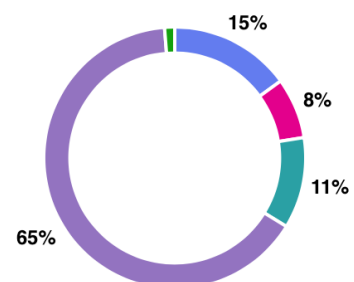
- 1 Under 5
- 0 6-10
- 7 11-16
- 72 None



4. How would you describe your family's use of the village hall?

Number of responses

- 12 Weekly
- 6 Monthly
- 9 Rarely
- 52 Occasionally
- 1 Never

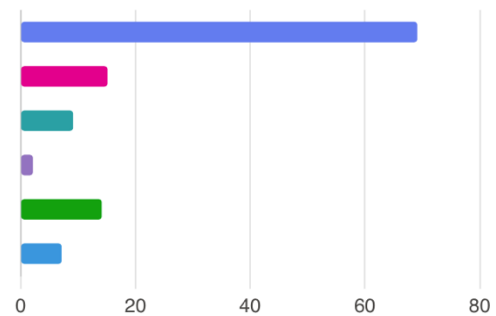


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5. How do you use the hall?

Number of responses (more than one allowed)

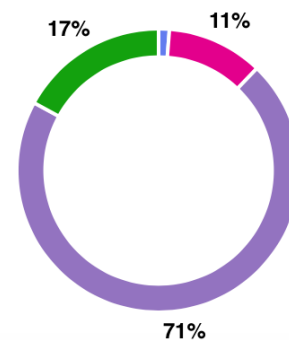
- 69 BDF events
- 15 Regular activities
- 9 Community kitchen
- 2 Parties - children
- 14 Parties - adults
- 7 None of the above



6. Are there reasons why you don't use the hall?

Number of responses

- 1 I don't know what events or activities are happening at the hall
- 9 No suitable events or activities
- 0 Too expensive
- 58 Not applicable (as I do use the hall)
- 14 Other*



*Other - additional comments

Working, so cannot attend during the day

Dates of some events have clashed with other commitments

I used to enjoy dancing but I'm no longer able to participate

Made to feel like outsiders if you haven't lived in the village a long time

We do use the village hall but infrequently - where there are events which we can make, we try to get along (e.g. local history talks, panto) and we have hired it for an event previously

Personal reasons

Busy lives & lack of time to engage in more activities there!

New to area, expect to use it more

Away quite a bit so miss out on some events I would definitely attend

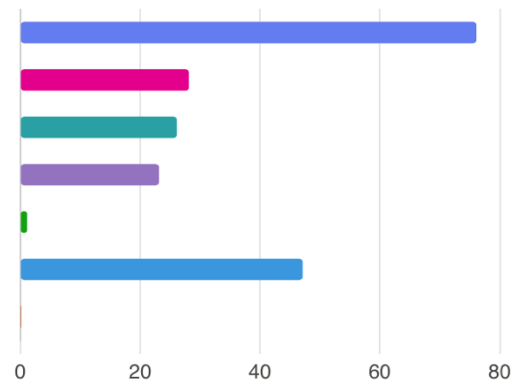
Very busy lives

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7. How do you find out about what's on at the village hall?

Number of responses (more than one allowed)

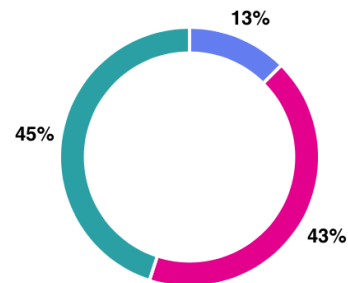
- 76 Village hall newsletter (4 per year)
- 28 Facebook
- 26 Marketing emails
- 23 Posters
- 1 Village hall website
- 47 Word of mouth
- 0 None of the above



8. Would you be interested in volunteering at the village hall?

Number of responses

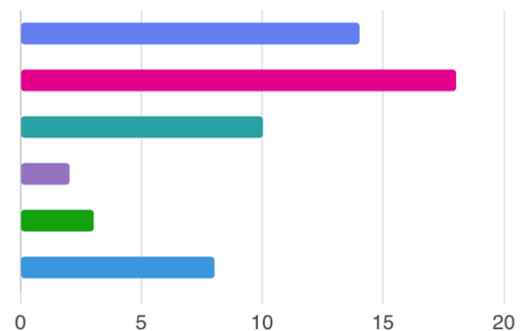
- 10 Yes
- 34 No
- 36 Maybe in the future



9. If yes or maybe, what activities would you consider?

Number of responses (more than one allowed)

- 14 Joining the committee or a working group
- 18 DIY hall maintenance/keeping the hall garden areas tidy
- 10 Organising events
- 2 Event booking system/event marketing/social media
- 3 Support with hall hire
- 8 Other*



*Other – additional comments

Cleaning and general help at events when available

Would always help with the garden area, if available

Not sure as could not regularly commit due to work

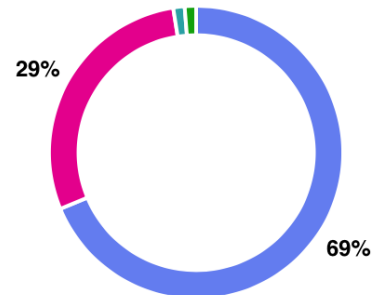
I already offer my help at events. Bake cakes, etc

Helping with teas/coffees, helping at different events, painting Panto scenes, general helping

Section 2 – About the hall

10. “We need a village hall for use by the whole community” To what extent do you agree or disagree with this statement?

Number of responses	
55	Strongly agree
23	Agree
1	Disagree
0	Strongly disagree
1	A village hall is not important to my life in a village



11. What do you like about the village hall?

Lovely modern building. Good range of activities - yoga is my favourite.

Good to have a place where community events can be organised

Modern, light and airy, good facilities

Location

It is modern and has good facilities

Local, great place to get together

Wide range of activities and events on offer

I love the fact that it is a central meeting place for friends and families. As a family, we enjoy attending many of the events held there. it is a beautiful and well-equipped building and is always very clean and tidy.

Clean and tidy. Good design

It's always clean, warm and welcoming

Range of events held, locality, good condition

I have been involved since the planning days of this new hall. I remember the village without a satisfactory hall. It was difficult to meet other villagers and keep a community feel. I have held weddings and funerals and lots of children's parties in the hall and would be devastated if it was to close

Large, light and airy modern space. You can walk there from Frankton. An opportunity to socialise with village people who you don't see often

Availability for local events

Small, good atmosphere, well-kept and it looks nice!

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Focal point & meeting place. Place for events

Since the renovation, which was at least partly but certainly significantly, aided by a large contribution from Frankton from their Frankton Village Hall fund, without which the other funding would not have been available, the renovated village hall has attracted quite a lot of activity and been a uniting feature for the villages of Bourton, Draycote and Frankton, which has been a positive influence compared to the preceding situation. It would be a real shame if this were not to continue.

It's a really nice space, feels well maintained - clean and tidy. Good size.

A place for people from all 3 villages to come together

Good size space, clean and reasonably flexible

The building and location. It is one of the few places that one can meet other members of the community.

Clean & well kept. It's a great facility.

Good events and opportunities to socialise with others in the community. Close by.

Good venue for all villages and very versatile for a variety of events

It is a great, well-equipped, spacious venue that is within walking distance of Frankton. The events that are planned there are usually brilliant fun and everyone who is involved in organising these is welcoming and friendly.

Such a versatile space and we have enjoyed many events here and organised a few over the years. It's a shame it is running at a loss. Frankton contributed a sizeable sum of money to the BDF build from the sale of Frankton Village School, later Frankton Village Hall, when it too became too expensive to maintain! Not a cycle we want to see repeated. It would be galling if it all went back to the Siklossy Estate.

It's a good-looking hall, and I've absolutely loved the community events I've attended (quizzes with food!)

Community space. Well used, good facilities

Good size of hall and kitchen, clean convenient for Frankton - walking distance

Variety of activities/events as well as having a kitchen/bar.

Clean, different spaces, not too big, good kitchen and toilets.

Community gatherings

Available when needed

The location and the overall appearance

Very clean and tidy and offers a wide range of events

Good size and clean.

It is a beautiful space in a lovely location. We are very lucky to have somewhere we can enjoy regular activities, and where we can make memories at special occasions.

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It's a very nice facility that keeps the community together. It would be sorely missed!

Provides an opportunity to see people I would only bump into now and again or not at all. The events I attend are always well managed and fun. It's well maintained and equipped. It's run by a dedicated team of volunteers who give up a lot of time, often unappreciated by the wider community. Events often support local charities so it's an ideal way to bring the village communities together and raise funds and awareness at the same time.

Flexibility of the facilities, meeting other villagers

Clean, tidy. Good space (not too big) . Has a kitchen and loos

It is a good facility suitable for many activities and a valuable community resource.

Excellent village hall with all the facilities you could wish for

Warm, clean, tidy, well cared for, inviting, welcoming

The underfloor heating, good daylight from windows, wooden flooring.

It is a good quality building, conveniently located. It has appropriate facilities in terms of kitchen, tables, chairs, etc.

Fresh and clean and always feel welcome. Really good venue for events

Having the facility for all in the community

It is a very pleasant welcoming hall, with the toll house adding to its interest. It is really versatile being suitable for small or large groups of people.

Light and airy. Clean. Easy access. Space, kitchen, plenty of tables, chairs.

Inside the hall it is very nice visually. Clean and warm. Useful kitchen area although limited for catering for numbers. Lack of fridge space and cooking equipment e.g. saucepans

Well kept, good facilities. Spacious, clean and warm.

Location. Resource. Community access.

Nice modern multi-functional space. Well looked after. Well equipped kitchen.

Welcoming building, modern and warm. Versatile. Good kitchen space.

Good size, great kitchen area for a village hall, good light - natural during the day. Easy access for all. Great volunteers

Spacious, warm, convenient and local

Pleasant building, bright and modern. Highly flexible. Many happy memories of nights out

Great facilities, great location, excellent facilities, fantastic size

Good flexible space, clean and accessible

Smart, clean, spacious, warm, good kitchen, good location to meet locals, enhances community spirit

12. What do you dislike about the village hall?

Would prefer not to say

More parking

Nothing really, although a car drive away in inclement weather

An outside space would be good, but I believe that is not practical.

The uncomfortable chairs !

In the past, priority was given to community use, which attracted enthusiastic local support. The general feeling is that the hall has lost its community spirit and now comes across primarily as a hall hire business.

Cold or no response when anything new is suggested

Feels empty, echoes, uncomfortable seating for long events. No atmosphere.

Lack of events of interest Drinks seem expensive to some

Nothing really but we don't always want to attend some of the events that are put on or are unavailable to attend.

Only downside is the lack of green space around it... but you can't solve that! I guess that limits certain uses or might put some off for some events despite it being a really nice hall.

Shame about the beams that preclude badminton etc

Lack of events catering for a wider age range

main hall can be hot and Toll House cold

Overheated occasionally.

Table legs fall out at you when stacking. They need clips to keep legs in place

It's hard for the team to run events that attract new visitors and I think some people take it for granted that it will always be there. It could perhaps offer more opportunities for regular family activities (children's choir, drama group, youth group).

Heat is wasted via air gaps around entrance doors. Water is heated all the time rather than just when needed (maybe this isn't the case now).

Woodwork cladding exterior

No outdoor space

Dislike that it has no useable outside space Would be better if it had an enclosed entrance porch. Would be better if it had a longer serving hatch area to avoid log jams when serving drinks/food to large numbers at events

Heating system- need a more instant on/off

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13. The village hall has lots of facilities...what else would you like to be available/what improvements can be made?

I think the facilities are excellent and cannot think on how they could be improved.

I can't think of anything else that would make things better

Invite users from a bit wider area to increase usage.

It is really well equipped already

It needs to be an open space, but this is why it has no atmosphere. Perhaps soft furnishings, and a cosy coffee table with armchairs etc might help, but it's a big room to fill.

I'm not sure what else could realistically be added. That seems to me to be a pretty good level of equipment and facilities.

More efficient servery/ bar for selling drinks at events. Would sell much more and make more money

Regular bookings e.g. Antique fair/ Local band practice/Repair Shop/Evening classes e.g. Art/ Health and wellbeing/Dog Training or dog grooming? /Indoor crazy golf/Family Games Nights(Big Jenga/ Connect 4 /Table football) Toddler Story Time/Rhyme time etc /

Access to a projector

Maybe a regular coffee/cake event possibly once a month, particularly during the winter months when people can meet/chat & get out during the dismal days. I know there is a lunch event, but not everyone can get in as numbers are limited.

The small garden space at the back of the hall could be improved.

Does it have a fitted, quality projector with pull down screen that could be used for information evenings and talks, like Stretton's hall? Is there an opportunity to have better lighting for events - it seems to either be full on or off, nothing in between. Could it have a sound system with microphone connectivity - could be good for the panto too, especially for the singers.

Regular coffee morning, monthly or weekly. Bridge club? Art class?

Better use could be made of the garden area next to the car park. Perhaps specific outdoor events?

I feel current facilities are fine. Maybe a breakout area to the side for coffee/tea during the summer

Outside space

For music events would need PA system

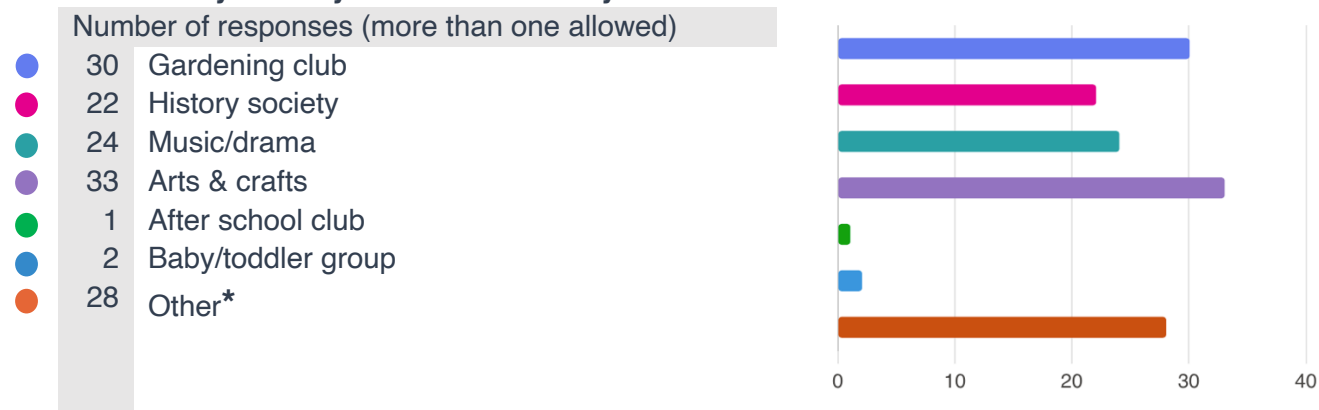
Consider renting out equipment for parties etc

The small outside space made usable. Could be attractive for some bookings.

The village hall is beautifully kept by a few volunteers. Need more volunteers from all 3 villages

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14. What activity would you or someone in your household be interested in?



*Other – additional comments

<i>School holiday club</i>
<i>Sports/fitness-based activities</i>
<i>Indoor car boot style sale most people have something they want to sell. Pop up/trial classes. Make & mend workshops</i>
<i>Youth club for teens?</i>
<i>Bridge</i>
<i>Social events. E.g. Skittles</i>
<i>More Evening Fitness Classes</i>
<i>Bridge Club</i>
<i>Table top sale. Games cafe</i>
<i>Maybe more daytime weekday events e.g. coffee mornings</i>
<i>Board games/chess, etc</i>
<i>More quizzes!</i>
<i>Film club? Coaching for children having exams</i>
<i>After school club", "Board game night with all ages. Opportunity to play some old favourites and learn some new ones with a BYOD and light snacks to share. Run a Beetle Drive - I remember that being a fun thing at my church hall. Jigsaw swap with a chat and tea and cake.</i>
<i>monthly repair club/ swop shop? 100 club? Jumble sale? Knit and natter? General coffee morning?</i>
<i>Film club</i>
<i>weekly community coffee/tea social</i>
<i>Book club</i>

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Occasional events with musicians/artists/scientists/speakers whether from our community or outside

Tai Chi

More quizzes, monthly? Games night. Casino night. Barn dance

Watercolour painting, textiles, mixed media. Knit & natter group

Fly tying

I wanted to offer a community cafe/mindfulness sessions and am in the process of finalising and enquiring about availability

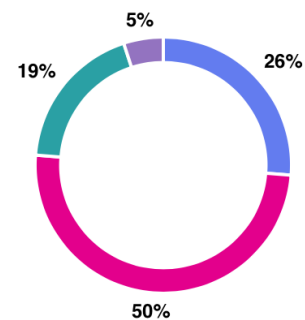
Pilates, Zumba, more plant sales

Section 3: About the hall's financial future

15. How would you feel about contributing to help maintain and improve the village hall?

Number of responses

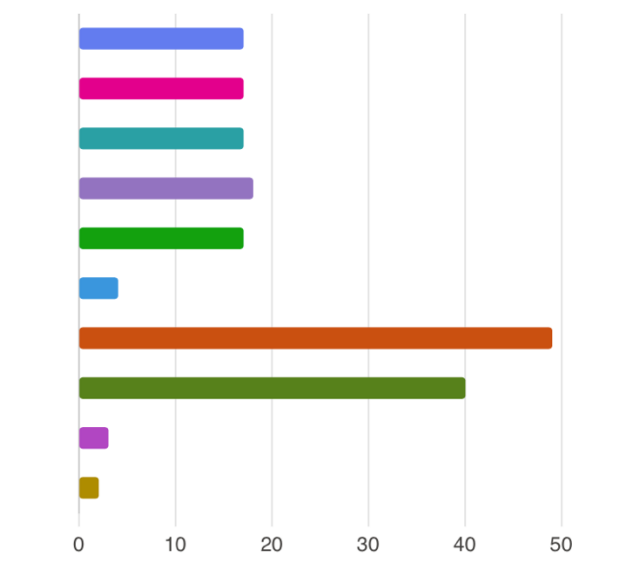
- 21 Very positive
- 40 I'd consider it
- 15 Not sure
- 4 Very negative



16. If you did want to help, what sort of contribution might you consider giving?

Number of responses (more than one allowed)

- 17 Financial contribution of £10 each year
- 17 Financial contribution of £20 each year
- 17 Financial contribution of £30 each year
- 18 Monthly standing order (choose my own amount)
- 17 A one-off donation
- 4 I would not consider a financial contribution
- 49 Event based contribution e.g. attend fundraising events
- 40 Event based contribution e.g. donate items or services for raffles or auctions
- 3 Grant and sponsorship contribution e.g. help with grant applications
- 2 Grant and sponsorship contribution e.g. reach out to potential sponsors/local businesses



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17. Is there anything else you would like to tell us?

Thanks for sending the survey!

We used to run events to raise money for the hall which was good for community as well as raising funds. Fireworks, party in the paddock etc. May be worth reinstating some of these. I believe that the villages paid for the hall so I am not sure how it can be given to a private trust.

Other events Jumble sales/ table sales, guides, brownies, cubs, bridge club, wine tasting, theme nights, murder mystery, WI, talks. Maybe look at how much profit each event makes to see if it is worthwhile running the event. Ask Bourton hall, Mitchell's, Barnhards, Friendly Inn, Garden centre, other local business for a contribution. Sporting events i.e. rounders match with contribution for admission, entering plus pay for teas, scones, Prosecco/Pimms

I would like to thank the committee for all of their hard work in keeping the village hall run - you are very much appreciated.

Although I would like to contribute financially, my income does not allow it

Be open to new ideas, advertise the hall a bit further afield rather than restrict it to the local villages. Locals will still support the hall, but it feels very closed off to the wider public which would bring much needed funds in. Charities would love the use of the hall to fund raise if they knew it was available, the time has come to widen the net and not rely on the immediate locals to fund it, but they will still get so much benefit from it and so could many others.

I think it's important that the hall feels accessible to all villagers, since the new hall gradually been used and supported by lots of people from all 3 villages. I think there is sometimes an erroneous feeling that the hall is mainly for an elite group. I know of the huge amount of work done by a lot of people to keep the hall available to everyone with a wide spread of activities

Could you tap into the playgroups market? There are playgroups/franchises that could use the space. Getting the weekly bookings would help with the cash flow. The Hall is a good space for parties and wakes - raise awareness of this? Charge a little more for the events/refreshments?

More of the more popular events e.g. quiz nights, plays. Outside agencies coming in to offer events.

I already make some financial contribution, where available and appropriate, by attending fund raising events like the recent coffee morning and some other events, though in fairness less than I used to partly because some recently haven't appealed to me. I also make a significant financial contribution to a different local institution, which is higher up my list of local priorities. If energy is a big cost, I think it would be worth exploring the possibility of reducing it by some means, maybe turning heating off more often? Are the lights low energy lights? Some sort of energy audit could be a way to identify potential for savings. Appeals for funds for building projects sometimes attract greater response than ongoing support so perhaps that could be a consideration. I know any sort of fund raising isn't easy nowadays as I have first-hand experience.

We're a young family which makes supporting challenging - particularly when we're doing lots of other things too. However, we value the hall and all the effort that goes into maintaining and running it! Would be very happy to support financially as per 16 above and, where we can, on practical stuff (e.g. some hall maintenance as per q9).

Historically there was a reluctance to run a bar or sell wine etc at events. That seems to be changing. A cultural change away from 'bring your own' would help a lot I think

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Would the social club be willing to: - approach local groups to see if they would change their venue to the village hall? There have been issues with both Dunchurch Village Hall and Sacred Heart Hall in Bilton recently) which may make our venue more attractive. Hire out equipment (e.g. glasses, furniture for local residents)?

Be open to new ideas and invite people from the wider area to attend or hire it.

Could the hall committee try to promote events that bring in most money? Eg event/party hire

Thank you to all the volunteers that keep the village hall thriving.

A baby & toddler group running in the daytime in the week in term-time would most likely be a welcome addition - there are lots of young families in the villages now! It might be worth considering more fundraising events to appeal to a wider audience like an auction of promises event (i.e. highest bidder wins the promised thing), a clothes swap, a silent disco, more murder mysteries, more quizzes, maybe an Easter egg hunt? etc.

Through my volunteering with young people, I use a lot of village halls around Rugby. BDF is probably now on the cheap side for local residents. Others are more attractive for young people as they have playgrounds and playing fields attached - is there something different that we can offer to make it more attractive? Have a look at Offchurch which actively promotes sleepovers for brownies and beavers (we have done this once at BDF). Other halls generate income by having a bar at more events - we've all got used to bringing our own drinks. Have we contacted community groups to see if they are interested? Is the field that people use for dog walking available for children to use? Is the football pitch? Can a joint package be offered?

£2000 deficit is not an insurmountable amount. Some increase in hire fees, ticket prices, regular class prices would cover a large proportion of it.

When the hall was first re-built, we were very successful at getting grants to help with funding. I feel this has been neglected over recent years and that we should look again at applying for community grants.

A big thank you to all of the volunteers for their time and commitment.

Any opportunities for the multiple teenagers in the villages to get involved as part of their Duke of Edinburgh volunteering (3, 6 or 12 months?) Why are the lights always on outside - seems a waste of electricity and an unnecessary cost for the village hall? The committee does a fabulous job and should be proud of all they achieve. I'm only sorry that it can be a slog getting the numbers to make events viable. If attendance at things like quizzes and bingo are always high, maybe we could have more of those. Also cake and coffee mornings - maybe an option to run once a month and raise funds for the hall on some dates, and charities on others.

Somehow the 'hall' needs to find ways for the community to commit and feel ownership. More community events with more people involved. More choice. Buy a brick or 100 club?

I think it would be sensible to charge a percentage of profits for all profit-making activities taking place at the hall above and beyond the standard hiring fee. It would also be wise to have a running maintenance programme to avoid sudden large expenditure. As it is a village hall, the accounts and details of work needed should be published to the village on a regular basis. This is important not only as a matter of accountability but also because it could be beneficial in raising awareness of what help is needed. Many villagers are not aware of the situation regarding the Siklossy estate and, based on historical evidence, the likely result of the hall failing to meet the conditions of the Deed of Gift.

I cannot see how to increase the use of the hall if you rely on the local residents alone. To generate more income I would suggest the facility is advertised further afield on a regular basis (i.e. the more you tell, the more you sell)

Maybe if it had a portable partition screen it could feel cosier for smaller groups and meetings.

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I do not see the VH advertised widely. Consequently, the utilisation level of the hall seems disturbingly low. Hire costs are relatively cheap; a small increase would still remain good value for money. There needs to be a very clear and public understanding that the VH is there to serve our community, NOT that the community is there to serve to VH financially. I believe that a better focus on delivering more well-organised events for the community would secure the financial viability needed.

I believe a yearly contribution for the three villages would be well received

Thank you to the committee and volunteers for all their hard work

I think a £5 monthly donation from households would be perfectly reasonable

More events like the ones that sell out before we have a chance to book tickets, like quiz. Enjoy race nights and casino nights. Make bingo children free

The hall would be ideal for music gigs for independent musicians which would create an income. Look at Temperance in Leamington or Kitchen Garden Cafe in Birmingham to see the sort of music that small venues are ideal for. Jumble sales - villagers donate stuff. Have an entry fee as well as generating income from sales. Anything left at the end of the day, go to charity shop or ask Air Ambulance or British Heart Foundation to take.

Nudge up charges to users so the hall doesn't run at a loss. Diversify content. Thank you to the volunteers & committee

Making everyone welcome. It can be off putting if you go to an event and find you are on a table on your own, especially if you don't know people or are new to the villages

I believe that doing this questionnaire has been a good idea as it has brought to everyone's attention to the fact that the village hall is at potential risk if it is not supported more by the villagers. I am hopeful that you will get a good response rate but even if you don't hopefully people will have read it and will have mentally registered the issue, fingers crossed. Some potential suggestions: What about a Lotto/Lucky numbers type fundraiser perhaps? (Annually or more frequently) Now that Santa's Visit is no longer held at the pub could it be held at the VH instead to make more of an event of it for the children & parents, rather than people just standing out in the cold waiting for Santa. When the houses were built on the old potato farm in Frankton, I heard that a Community Infrastructure Levy /Developers Contribution would go towards the Village Hall did this ever happen? If not, can this be pursued retrospectively ?

Is the hall advertised on FB groups (or in other ways) in Rugby and surrounding areas? It's a great space and not too far from main roads and has parking. Wondering if more people knew of the hall if it would be booked more for parties and possibly repeat weekly sessions too. Appreciate this involves someone coordinating that advertising but could increase revenue.

Find a way to get more volunteers from all villages. Have a brain storming night so residents can come and offer ideas, may encourage new thinking?

I would like your visitors to the village hall to use the car park and not my drive way as a turning circle or to turn their vehicles around on our drive.

I think anyone who contributes should be given the use of the hall once or twice a year (depending on contribution) as a goodwill gesture as it would then seem more appealing

Would accept a small increase in annual precept (parish council charge) e.g. £20 pa

***Source: a 2024 Rural Sustainability Study for Rugby Borough lists
101 dwellings in Frankton, 64 in Bourton and 34 in Draycote.**

March 2026