

Claydon and Barham Community Local Trust

The Trust continues to work to run the Community Centre, organises the distribution of the In Touch magazine and remains at the heart of the community supporting local groups by providing a large venue with bar facilities.

The Trust continues to make improvements to the Community Centre including the outside space in time for expected better weather. However we realise there is much more still to do and the list continues to grow.

The Community Centre is still working with Mid Suffolk Council to attempt to release the section 106 money promised when Hazel Rise was built. It was set aside for a new Community Centre and we are trying to get the wording changed to allow it is used for improvements to the current building.

The Café started this year and is proving extremely popular and has provided a regular hire during the day. Ian and Jill run the café as a private venture and they provide a very valued asset to the community.

The Community Centre hosts Karate, Zumba, Bingo, and sporting league clubs including Bowling, Darts and Crib. Congratulations to the Crib Club for winning The Bryan Knights singles Crib knock out cup. During the year the Centre has been used for many fund raising events organising by the local groups including Preschool, the local Football Clubs plus individual charity events. Currently we have bookings most weekends for private functions including birthday parties, dances, race nights and many other events.

The organisation and distribution of the In Touch magazine in Claydon and Barham would not be possible without a wonderful group of 30 plus volunteers. As a result of the payment received for this service from Mansion House Publications during 2015 -6 grants of up to £1000 will be given to local community groups. Also money was put aside to add to the grants given by Claydon & Whitton Rural Parish Council and Barham Parish Council resulted in the purchase of a Defibrillator and a heated storage cabinet for any emergency occurring in our use community. We are waiting for this vital equipment it to be recognised by East Anglian Ambulance Service before it can be advertised within the community.

The Community Trust continues to have good dialogue with the High School. As a result Community Centre users should note that at weekends and during the evening they are able to use the Car Park in front of the High School, unless of course there is a School event taking place.

Claydon & Barham Local Community Trust Committee has a wide variety of experience necessary in running and maintaining the Community Centre and they strive to continue to improve the Centre and to ensure it remains at the heart of the community. Committee members, where possible, carry out work within the building and grounds themselves. However any offers from residents wishing to get involved in helping the Manager, Committee and Directors maintain and improve this community facility would be very welcome.