

Cigarette stations where butts can be disposed of are at all external doors. New Key boxes are also in place and are much easier to use.

The chair store at the rear of the main hall has been lined with wood and a metal bar installed to protect the far wall from the chairs.

The Parish Council declined the Centre's wish that they have their own water supply because of the cost involved.

The telephone provider has been changed to TalkTalk and broadband installed to give the Centre Wi-Fi access in all halls.

The Centre now receives a payment from the AFC for the use of the Centre's bins.

New fire doors were installed during the year in the kitchen and another in the changing rooms used by the AFC.

New cleaners were appointed and there is a marked difference in the cleanliness of the Centre. This is closely monitored by the secretary.

There was an attempted burglary in January resulting in damage to the window frame in the Kings Studio.

An electrical upgrade was begun during the year and the main hall has been rewired. This upgrade is ongoing.

The local primary school has given to the Centre some high quality lighting and sound equipment for the stage. This will be installed in May this year. In response the Centre will allow free use of the main hall to the school for three of their productions each year in perpetuity.

In the coming year the centre intends to refurbish the kitchen area and the kitchen equipment.

All in all a successful year for the Centre.

Aylesford Community Centre

The Community is well run and is solvent. There are 13 Trustees at present, as usual we extend an invitation to the Parish Council to join the board of Trustees.

The Trustees meet every two months to go through the business of the Centre and receive the reports of the Treasurer and the Bookings Manager. It has been an eventful year and we are mindful that no report was given last year. An update of events is given below.

The new 99 year lease was finalised and is now in place. There are many more problems with the parking now that the Centre has relinquished the car park to the Parish Council. There is not enough parking and the situation grows worse. There are three users on site that was once meant for the Community alone. It is hoped that the Parish Council will give some thought to extending the parking. This is a very busy and successful Community Centre and the football club also grows ever larger with needs for more parking. A parking area at the far end of the recreation ground would also greatly relieve the pressure.

The new main hall floor installed in February is a great success, well liked by hirers. The old floor was sold to a music club in Maidstone.

The Chairman (Mr Keith Hursey) of the Centre's Managing Council died in October 2015 after a long illness. Mr Tony Goldsmith subsequently filled the role.

Five new six-foot tables were purchased to ensure that there are enough tables for all the bookings. Also acquired this year were a new chair trolley and two table trolleys.

The terms and conditions have been updated and together with an emergency plan are sent to all hirers. The Trustees reaffirmed the child and vulnerable adults safeguarding policy at the Centre.