

Itton & Howick Village Hall
www.ittonhowickvillagehall.org.uk

Annual General Meeting to be held on Saturday 25th April at the hall
at 9:30am

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of 2025 AGM
3. Chairman's Report (overleaf)
4. Finance Report
5. To note current Trustees & Terms of Office:

Leslie Martin Ashton-Smith (Oct 2028)

Susan Elizabeth Baldwin (Oct 2027)

Rita Christine Edwards (Oct 2025)

Keith Lindsay Godsell Jenkins (Oct 2026)

Ian Johnson (Oct 2026)

Elizabeth Pirson (Oct 2026)

Caroline Kay Richardson (Oct 2026)

Trustees may offer to serve a further term.

6. Appointment of Financial Examiner: Mr. B. Morse, FCA
7. Any other business: (At the chairman's discretion)
8. Date for next AGM – March/April 2027

Chairman's Report for the AGM in 2026.

This is my third Chairman's report since taking up the position for Itton & Howick Village Hall. The village hall serves a small constituency which is widely spread in the districts of Itton and Howick. The area has two community focal points, St. Deniol's church and ourselves, the community village hall. With the group of Trustees, the hall is seeking to become a popular community led amenity providing events, for learning, entertainment and more general community engagement.

Following our survey with our local residents, the trustees have arranged many community events, for example we had a VE celebration and this is likely to become an annual event. The hall held a Christmas Social with mulled wine and mince pies, and a Winter Lunch in January which proved very popular. The committee ran a three-month trial of a village bar night and following this successful trial, we have committed to a monthly village bar night for the rest of the year.

Our next three community events for May, June and July, will be a charity auction night looking to provide an evening of fun alongside an opportunity to raise money for the hall. In May another VE breakfast, and in July, there will be a concert by the Chepstow Male Voice Choir. Further details will be announced by local Notice boards, Facebook, 5-WAYS, and by direct communication. I look forward to seeing you at these events.

The hall is already used by many different organisations such as fitness classes, a popular Bridge club, private hirers, and has been used by Community Councils. We thank these organisations for booking the hall and providing different activities for the community. Anyone looking to hire the hall for a regular event or new activity or just to hire the hall for a single event such as a celebration please contact the hall team. Please also be an advocate for hiring our hall to any interested parties.

As chairman I have been well supported by a small but enthusiastic team and without them it would not have been possible to hold any events. Particular thanks to Keith, the Vice Chair, Rita our secretary and the rest of the trustees and key volunteers Diane, Alison, Kate and Ian, as regular contributors to our events. The hall is always looking to engage with more volunteers for any task both large and small, so please make contact if you would like to help and join the team.

The hall has recently been connected to the internet and after a successful lottery bid we have installed new audio-visual equipment to enable us to widen our appeal and capability so that we can consider holding different types of events. Heating the hall continues to be a difficult challenge especially within the restriction of a grade II listed building, but we have obtained some grant assistance to make improvements to windows and insulation. We have installed remote control heating controls which have also helped to reduce our heating cost. We have also approached the local community council for help in refurbishing the kitchen but have not succeeded as yet in getting any financial support from them.

Thank you for supporting the hall and if you have any suggestions for events or things we could do better please get in touch.

Les Ashton-Smith, Chairman of Trustees for Itton and Howick Hall.

March 2026