

Bradfield Village Hall Update – 05/10/25

The arrangements for the Christmas Fayre are now well under way, with all tables fully booked. We are also holding a waiting list in case of any cancellations. Advertising boards will be placed around the village at the beginning of November.

Looking ahead to next year, we are considering planning another Barn Dance following the success of the previous one, as well as a possible history themed event. Some old village maps have recently resurfaced, and it would be wonderful to share these with both long standing residents and those newer to the village.

We have also written to the majority of our hirers to invite them to consider joining the trustee board, to represent their groups, and we await responses.

Recent investment has been made in the changing rooms. A shower unit was replaced at a cost of £997, and new ceiling-mounted heating infrared panels controlled both locally and via WiFi will be installed by the end of October 2025 at a further cost of £1,224. This brings the total spend on these two essential replacements to £2,221. We are also preparing to apply for a lottery grant to support further refurbishment of the kitchen and changing room areas. As lottery grant applications can only be made once a year, our next opportunity opens this month. However, there is no guarantee of success, and the process takes around two months for a decision, so patience will be required.

Bradfield Village Hall would also respectfully request that Bradfield Parish Council consider, at a future meeting, the replacement of the Hall's heating system, which is now 37 years old. This would, of course, be dependent on the availability of reserves.

One of the most disappointing matters we encountered in September was learning that Bradfield Rovers Football Club, who had submitted a complaint to the Charity Commission in July 2025 regarding our financial practices and public benefit delivery, had in fact already received confirmation that the Commission had concluded its review and would take no further action. This outcome, known to them since July, was not shared with us at the time, leaving us under the impression that we were still under investigation. We have since asked BRFC to provide us with a copy of the conclusion document, but this was declined. As a result, we have now contacted the Charity Commission directly to request the documentation ourselves.

Regards,

Bradfield Village Hall Trustees