

Hyde Parish Hall celebrates a new look

Residents of Hyde parish marked the reopening of their newly refurbished hall last Friday with a celebration of ribbon cutting, cake, fizz and a delightful musical interlude from local school children.

The ribbon cutting was performed by Mrs Joan Ferrer JP DL, representing HM Lord-Lieutenant of Hampshire, who thanked the hall trustees and other volunteers for their hard work in making the project happen and for delivering such a successful outcome.

Willow and Pine classes from Hyde School entertained the crowd with songs and said they looked forward to continuing to use the hall for their school gym lessons.

The hall had been closed for 6 weeks over the summer during which time the outside area was improved to allow better access for wheelchair users and those with limited mobility, whilst inside the old fashioned original 1980's toilets were completely demolished and remodelled.

The hall now boasts a fully accessible toilet, baby change and shower and 5 self contained toilet cubicles with automated lighting, taps, flushes, driers and soap dispensers.

The work, which cost around £100K was funded by grants from Veolia Environmental Trust, ACRE Jubilee Village Hall fund, T H Russell Trust, NFDC and NFNPA. Some of the funding is still to be used with a project to improve biodiversity in the surrounding gardens by installing bird, bat and hedgehog boxes and an insect habitat.

During the closure the hall was also given a lick of paint and a good clean so it is now ready to welcome new and regular users again.

As part of the re-launch of the hall there will be an open day on 20th October for anyone who might be interested in using the facility and there is also a free children's event in November.



NB. The internal works were carried out by Stevens Washrooms of Portsmouth, external works by local builder Jonty LeFroy.