

First Annual Report to the Akeley Parish Council - 4th March 2016

In 2012 a small group of individuals arranged events in the Village to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and the London Olympics. Following these events and after discussion with the chairman of the Parish Council it was agreed that the same group would continue to operate as The Events Committee.

At its inception it was agreed that the main objective of the committee would be to arrange events for the village, principally the Annual Pig Roast, on a cost covering basis. No attempt was to be made to raise funds for charities or any other purposes. The main benefit would be that villagers could enjoy social gatherings with low prices for food and drinks and free entertainment. No charge was to be made for entry and there were to be no raffles, tombolas or other money raising activities.

In the three years when the Pig Roast has been arranged by the committee we have been blessed with good weather and with good attendances we have managed to generate enough surplus to establish a contingency fund. This money is kept as a ring-fenced amount in the village hall committee bank account.

The organisation of the Pig Roast, with a potential attendance of approaching 200 people, involves the commitment of significant funds not all of which would be recoverable in the event of a very low turnout caused, for example, by adverse weather conditions, hence the need for the contingency fund.

Various items of equipment acquired in connection with the Queen's Jubilee and Olympics Opening Ceremony Barbecue in 2012 and subsequent Pig Roasts have been donated to the village hall for the benefit of the village. These include the gas barbecue, the satellite dish and Freeview box installed in the village hall and various items of play equipment also kept at the village hall.

In the future, any funds raised which are in excess of what is considered to be a reasonable contingency will be used in support of projects or activities for the benefit of the whole village.

A perfect example of this is the recently installed defibrillator, in support of which we wish to donate £250.

John Norman
on behalf of the Events Committee