

Report to Annual Parish Council Meeting 7.3.17 from Sports & Social Committee for the year 2016/17.

Our aim is to organise a variety of events and activities throughout the year for the benefit of the residents of Little Comberton and surrounding villages. We try to ensure that we organise at least 8 purely social events throughout the year. We try to 'ring the changes' by trying new and different events as well as sticking to 'tried & tested' favourites. We also use the Village Hall for regular activities, among ones which we help to support are: Whist Drives, Karate lessons for both Juniors and Seniors, Keep Fit, Carpet Bowls etc.

Regular events are the Christmas/New Year Parties for the Young and the Retired, Fish & Chip Quiz Evenings, Annual Cream Teas, Annual Summer Barbecue, Fun Evenings of Poetry & Song etc. We have also put on a Sunday Lunch, held a Pub Evening and evenings of films for those interested in Steam Locomotives.

We do not ignore the 'Sports' part of our title, and the recent Wychavon sports initiative introducing Carpet Bowls in February has been a great success. Since the start we have been getting 24 – 28 participants, and others who just wish to spectate and participate socially. This week is due to be the last sponsored week of this initiative, but the numbers we have been attracting means that it is almost certain to continue on a long term basis.

The Karate club continues to thrive; just when I thought numbers might be wavering, we have had new members join in both the Junior and Senior section. It is also encouraging that the very first junior to start the very first junior lesson back in September 2013 is still training. Another junior trains regularly at the Association's other clubs in Redditch as well, and the next belt he would grade for would be Brown Belt. At both last week's lessons, it was so encouraging that it was a struggle to fit everybody in one line down the hall! We have greatly benefited from the joint use of the gazebo/marquee, for which we are very grateful.

As a Committee we are still determined to keep putting on events and organise activities that meet the needs across the whole Community. We work closely with the members of the Village Hall Committee; I would like to thank them for all their co-operation. I would also like to thank all the members of the Sports & Social Committee, for all the hard work and efforts they put in, year on year, to ensure that all these events and activities are as successful as they are.

Graham Knight, Chair Little Comberton Sports & Social Committee, March 2017.