

Shipdham Community Choir Information for the Parish Council.

The Shipdham Community Choir has been unable to meet for the past year, so the following notes reflect what we we have done last year and will do again when possible.

- The choir was founded over 7 years ago in response to interest by villagers
- From the start it was intended to be an inclusive community initiative-no auditions, no, no necessity for sight reading-just wanting to sing together.
- The choir meets twice monthly on a Tuesday evening in St Thomas' Chapel in All Saints Church. We contribute a fee to the church for heating and lighting.
- The attendance varies from 25-35 per meeting. There is a voluntary donation of £2 per person.
- We sing a wide range of music, e.g medleys from musicals, traditional and modern There is time for valued social interaction and refreshments; choir members give much mutual support, for instance in times of grieving.
- Our performances include at Care Homes, the Christmas Tree Festival in All Saints and concerts in the church.
- During this time of the pandemic we have been contributing regular articles on musical matters to the Shipdham News.

Chair Ray Arnold.

The choir is self-funding through regular members' contributions and has made use of a grant from Breckland in the past with which we purchased some musical equipment. We have a healthy bank balance and can continue with a lower contribution to the church for the foreseeable future even though we may not be able to meet for some months more.

I personally have found the Choir to be inclusive, friendly joyous and fun, but especially supportive when my wife died.

Can't wait to sing together again, very, very soon.

Treasurer Bill Hinks.