

after payment for war memorials in the parish, although the final £340 was provided by an interest free loan from Mr Woodhouse. The new stage proved a great asset, making possible many more entertainments in the years before television.

In addition to the land for the hall site, Mr Woodhouse also gave land for the playing field in 1953 and once money had been raised to drain, level and fence the field, it was opened in 1957 by Lord St Audries and the first football match was played with the Spaxton football team being dressed as ladies!

In 1960 Mr Woodhouse resigned as chairman of the management committee after 23 years and his place was taken by Mr Philip Roberts. However Mr Woodhouse was invited to open the Court Pavilion, a prefabricated wooden building, previously an office, purchased from Kellands in September 1974. This provides a smaller meeting room and therefore more efficient use of the hall.



Mr Geoffrey Woodhouse, Mr Tom Merchant, Mr Reg Speed and Mr Jack Waterman at the opening of the Pavilion

More recently the hall has been substantially extended and improved using money left by Mr Bill Geen in 1992, with a commercial kitchen and new sports changing rooms and toilets. A new entrance lobby and store were added in 2006 with a separate toilet to facilitate disabled access. In 2010 an energy efficiency makeover and photovoltaic panel installation helped to reduce heating bills.

However the hall would not survive without the many people who freely volunteer their time to help run it (not always smoothly!). Chairmen and other officers are mentioned here but it is in fact the whole committee which comes together to make decisions and help with the large and small issues which make up the running of the hall. Spaxton Village Hall is still a wonderful, accessible facility, which we strive to maintain and improve for all and in memory of those whose efforts were instrumental in its inception.

MOBILE LIBRARY at Four Forks. There is a very real possibility that the mobile library van will cease calling at Four Forks, opposite the garage. I just happened to visit the van to find the dates for putting into the Community News and the Librarian was taken by surprise! Apparently I was the first person to enter his van at Four Forks for 4 months! Therefore, if no-one starts using the service soon, it will be cut to save money. Use it or Lose it, as the saying goes

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