

APPENDIX C – MAY 2025 - APPLICATIONS FOR FREE ROOM HIRE 2025/26

	PURPOSE OF GROUP	OPEN TO	OTHER GROUP DETAILS	ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
Vale of Belvoir Writing Group	For local writers of any ability or experience to share their writing, and to be inspired and encouraged to be creative. We share works in progress, discuss the craft of writing, use optional writing prompts for inspiration, and give each other constructive but always friendly feedback.	Anyone with an interest in writing, aspiring poets, novelists, YA and children's authors, bloggers and travel writers.	There is no charge to attendees. 6-10 attend on a monthly basis. There are 12 meetings each year.	<p>It's been a busy year for our writing group with one member publishing their book and another being commissioned to write a popular science book for children, which is now available for pre-order. We're supporting another member in his application for a creative writing Masters at Oxford, providing critical feedback to help determine the best work for his portfolio. Some are submitting stories for competitions and others are carrying on with various personal projects, novels, memoirs and reflections. Attendance numbers have increased over the year and we've had some encouraging messages of thanks for the supportive space we provide writers and those who want to start writing. One huge benefit of the room is that it's accessible for people with mobility aids, which has helped those members that would otherwise face barriers if there were tricky steps or if we were situated elsewhere.</p> <p>We continue to meet on the second Tuesday of each month and have a fairly relaxed agenda. There's an optional theme or writing prompt for each meeting but most people bring whatever they've been writing recently. Feedback is always given with encouragement so that people keep writing and enjoying themselves.</p> <p>The group has always been free to attend, and the support of the parish council is greatly appreciated in helping us to remain a community resource that supports residents to discover and work on their creativity.</p> <p>Our website is belvoirwriting.co.uk.</p>
U3A Table Tennis	We aim to provide a variety of activities to stimulate social, physical and mental interaction	Anyone not in full time employment (most members are retired)	Attendees pay £1.50 per session. 25 attend on a weekly basis. There are 49/50 meetings per year.	This year, the annual membership fees has been reduced to £10, partly as an acknowledgement of the continuing cost of living situation, but also to encourage a few more members and hopefully maintain the total annual income. Of this £10, £4 has to be paid to the National U3A body. The remaining amount allows us to invite speakers to our monthly meetings, have two parties each year, usually July and December, and cover any shortfalls in the smaller groups who could otherwise not afford their venue

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				hire etc. In addition the table tennis group pays for storage of the tables. Costs paid by group attendees are to cover venue hire and refreshments. We are extremely grateful for the assistance given to us over the years and hope that the grant for free room hire will continue this year and into the future.
U3A Whist Group	We aim to provide a variety of activities to stimulate social, physical and mental interaction	Anyone not in full time employment (most members are retired)	Attendees pay £1.50 per session. 6-8 attend on a weekly basis. There are 49/50 meetings per year.	As above.
Vale of Belvoir Art Society	We meet each week to introduce members to water colour, acrylic and oils. Confidence is gained with the different mediums and our friendly welcoming group helps people to relax and feel good about themselves.	Anyone over the age of 18. We encourage all abilities to reach their full potential and enjoy art.	Attendees pay a £25 pa membership. The group has 30 members. There are about 42 meetings per year.	The group has gone from strength to strength since moving to the Old School. As an Art Society our members were of a certain age... Our new members are younger, involved and amazing artists. This has given us a real boost and the work being produced by everyone has improved. Our group always allows working people a chance to have a quiet outlet to help with mental health. When in sessions you think of nothing else, just what you are painting. Our programme includes sessions which any member of the public can come to where a professional artist demonstrates their art. This is only £3 for visitors.
Bottesford Whist Drive Club	To play whist and socialise	Anyone who wishes to play whist	Attendees pay £2 per session. 20-24 people attend each week	This is a small group of card players. The aim of the group is to promote socialising in a pleasant environment. Anybody is welcome to play and we are happy to teach anybody who is not familiar. The £2 fee is to cover the provision of whist and playing cards and to provide tea and biscuits halfway through the sessions. We hold a Christmas lunch each year and any excess monies are used to subsidise this event.