

# **Minutes of AGM**

## **Tynninghame Village Hall and Community held on April 14th 2023 at Tynninghame Village Hall**

### **Present**

Erica Wimbush (Chair), Tim Harper (Treasurer), Shireen Green (Secretary), Carol Crowther (Committee member), Ali McGregor (Committee member), Danny Wight (DCC-Dunpender Community Council member) Rhys Green, Donald Gillies, Sophie Gillies, Adam Stockwell, Stephen Roberts, Ian Arthurs, Judy Riley, David Simpson, Anthony Maclver, Karine Maclver, Liz Stobart, Alastair Stobart, Margaret Evans, Andrew Jones, Jenni Vernon, David Clark, Laura Clifford, Ian Staples.

### **Welcome**

Erica Wimbush, as chair, welcomed everybody to the meeting. She gave a brief introduction to the charity highlighting what we do and who we are including the vital role which local volunteers play in supporting the running of the Hall. The committee members introduced themselves.

### **Apologies**

John Crowther, Nathan Goode, Rae Goode, George Liston, Marie Liston, Chris Gunstone, Morag Cook, Christine Copeland, Lindsay Arthurs.

### **Approval of last years AGM minutes**

Proposed by Shireen Green and seconded by Stephen Roberts.

### **Matters Arising**

The only matters arising which were not addressed in the rest of the Agenda were that we had agreed to open the Committee meetings to residents and that the notes of Committee meetings would be shared publicly. These two actions have been implemented. Work needed by Galbraith's to make the rear steps at the Hall safer is still outstanding.

### **Annual Report**

#### **Hall Refurbishment Report**

Erica Wimbush gave a brief round up of 2022, stating that we have now completed the refurbishment of the Hall, a project that started 2019. Costings were as follows:

Total spend: £67,283; Grants received: £44,000 (65% of total spend); TVH Funds: £23,283. The key works were:-

- Kitchen upgrade
- Toilet upgrade
- Roof insulation in Main Hall

- Sanding and polishing floor
- Painting interior walls
- Secondary glazing of windows
- Upgrade of heating and lighting in main hall

Overall the main aim of the Hall refurbishment project was to create a Hall that is a warm and welcoming environment and more energy efficient, while still retaining the historic character of the Hall.

### **Hall exterior**

Erica highlighted that there are a number of necessary urgent repairs to the Hall exterior, which are the responsibility of Galbraith's on behalf of the owner, the Earl of Haddington. These repairs include:

- the leaking roof
- the chimney
- the window frames
- external paintwork
- the dangerous external stair at the back of the Hall
- upkeep of the green area and lanes around the Hall

Despite continued communications with Galbraith's about these issues, little progress has been made to complete these repairs satisfactorily raising concern over the potential damage to the new refurbishments.

### **Cricket Pitch and Common Areas**

The cricket pitch agreement remains under discussion with the estate. Galbraith's have only offered a complicated and costly lease agreement. So again, little progress has been made on this. The Committee has decided it was unwilling to take on extra responsibilities/costs of a burdensome lease agreement. As the Earl of Haddington sells off more of his village properties, there is considerable community concern about who will maintain the common green areas that are currently maintained by Galbraith's.

It was agreed that a longer-term strategy is required and Erica Wimbush suggested that a short term Village group should perhaps be established to discuss and set out options as to how this might be taken forward.

### **Hall Management and Maintenance**

Carol Crowther gave a summary update and thanked Eric Martin (Hall Keeper) and Ewelina (Hall Cleaner) for their continued service. Carol highlighted that we have limited the number of large gatherings in the Hall in response to resident feedback and have purchased a new defibrillator cabinet with generous funding from St John's Ambulance Service and DCC. The Scottish Fire and Rescue service had visited the Hall and given helpful feedback. An Open Fire Management Policy is to be implemented.

Carol also spoke about the need for additional local volunteers for the Hall who are able to provide ad hoc support to the Hall Keeper and the Committee.

### **Community Engagement Group (CEG)**

As lead for the CEG, Carol Crowther went on to give an update on the groups activities reminding everyone that the group is very active with lots of ideas and support being given for local events, some as fund raisers and others just for fun, from the monthly pub nights to seasonal activities for local children. Carol noted her thanks to Dave Wakefield for hosting the very successful Christmas carols in the courtyard and to Elinor Evans for playing beautifully on the harp. New members to CEG are always most welcome.

Carol reminded everyone that updated information can be found on the Hall notice board and website, in the shelter and via the Village What's App group. She also flagged up the

next community event which is to celebrate the Coronation of King Charles. As part of this celebration the intention is to acknowledge and honour any local resident who goes above and beyond for the Village Community. Votes can be left in the box in the bus shelter.

## **Financial Report**

Tim Harper gave a summary update on the financial position in 2022. A copy of the year end accounts was made available to all who attended.

We are in a considerably better position than the previous year. Whilst we are showing a net loss of £3926, this loss can be explained by the spend on the refurbishment programme this year when grants were received in the previous year. Ignoring the refurbishment costs and grant monies received, we would have a net profit of around £4,000. We maintain a healthy financial position in the face of escalating costs such as electricity and other day to day expenses.

## **Dunpender Community Council**

Danny Wight (the Tynninghame representative on the Community Council) gave an overview of both his position on the Community Council and the rationale for his inclusion on the TVHCC.

Danny then gave an update on the key issues that he believed were of relevance and importance.

1. Traffic calming measures agreed by East Lothian Council (ELC) and already financed have shown little progress in the village, in particular installation of effective rumble strips on each entrance to the village and repairing the speed sensitive camera. The gateway signs have been installed. Suggestions for speed restrictions on Lime Tree walk to the beach have not been responded to. It was acknowledged that the TVHCC could only do so much and that individuals should feel able to write directly to East Lothian Councillors, especially to lobby for the repeatedly requested 20 mph limit on Main Street. Danny agreed to make the contact details of our three ELC councillors available in Bus shelter for individuals to pursue these issues.
2. Work is progressing on the creation of footpaths to Binning Wood, Knowes Ford and from the Village to the coast.
3. Local Place Plans are proposals from community organisations to their councils about how land should be developed and used within their local area. Local authorities have to give them 'due regard' in their own planning decisions. A Local Place Plan is being developed by Dunpender Community Council and Danny encouraged everyone to respond to an online questionnaire which will be released soon.
4. Rail Track hopes to have East Linton Station operational from April 2024. Construction has gone to plan but the opening has been delayed by the need to replace Markle level crossing with a bridge.

Danny intimated that Dunpender Community Council should have 12 members but only has 10 at present. Ideally someone would represent the Lawhead area. Anyone interested in a role on the Community Council (wherever they live within the DCC area) should speak with him or contact the chair directly: Judith Priest  
judith.priest@talk21.com

## Committee appointment/retiral

Shireen Green thanked the Committee members for their valuable contribution to TVHCC in 2022.

In line with the constitution, one third of committee members need to stand down. Ali McGregor has decided to retire and Erica Wimbush, as the longest standing trustee needs to stand down although she will be eligible for re-appointment at the next committee meeting. Ali was thanked for her contribution over the last two and a half years.

There was a unanimous vote to accept Ian Staples as a new committee member. Anyone else interested was invited to chat to a committee member.

Proposed Committee members in 2023 - Carol Crowther, Shireen Green, Tim Harper, Ian, Staples and Danny Wight.

Office-bearers will be chosen at next Committee meeting on 1 May.

## Any other business

- Margaret Evans raised concerns over speeding in the village especially with regard to Main Street and vulnerability of cafe visitors. It was suggested that those concerned should write directly to their councillors.
- **Agatha Christie film Murder is Easy** - Filming is now scheduled for 22 June-4 Aug with 7-8 days in Tynninghame. All residents will receive a letter from the film company with further details including a date for a community meeting with the film company in the Village hall.
- Date of next TVHC Committee meeting, 1 May 2023 at 7:30pm

Shireen Green TVHCC April 2023