

Tynninghame Village Hall

Trustees Annual Report

1 January 2022- 31 December 2022

Contact

Tynninghame Village Hall

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Charity Trustees

Erica Wimbush (Chair) (joined June 2017)

Tim Harper (Treasurer) (joined April 2018)

Shireen Green (Secretary) (joined August 2020)

Carol Crowther (joined June 2020)

Alison McGregor (joined June 2020)

Danny Wight (joined October 2020)

Changes since last AGM

Yvonne Carmichael (joined April 2021, left April 2022)

Jackie Oudney (joined April 2021, left January 2022)

Objectives and Activities

The Charity was set up in 2017 and its aims are -

1.1 The advancement of citizenship or community development through the provision of a venue for the local community and others to come together and participate in various activities and events.

1.2 The advancement of the arts, heritage, culture or science by offering a space for local groups to exhibit their crafts.

1.3 The provision of recreational facilities, or the organisation of recreational activities with the object of improving the conditions of life for the persons for whom the facilities or activities are primarily intended by providing a range of classes and groups.

Much of the focus of the charity is running the Village Hall with concerts, pub nights, Burns Night, Christmas events as well as the regular weekly classes of yoga, singing, fitness and dog training. When Covid restrictions lifted we

were able to bring the Hall and the village back to life by starting all these activities again.

The charity is mainly for those in the local community, which is located primarily in Tynninghame Village and Tynninghame House, Lawhead, Knowes, Newbyth and Tynefield. However people from out with this local area e.g. Dunbar, East Linton and Whitekirk, come to many of the events and classes.

Structure, governance and management

Our governing document is a constitution set up in 2017. In 2021 we agreed to change the name of the charity to Tynninghame Village Hall and Community (TVHC) to reflect our wider engagement with the community in order to promote social connectedness and to facilitate discussion on wider issues affecting the community in addition to the maintenance and running of the village hall.

We rely on members of the community to put themselves forward to become Trustees and we regularly invite new members at the AGM.

Financial Review

The audited accounts year ending 31 December 2022, reflect a £3,926 net loss in comparison to a £26,954 loss in the previous year. Both these accounting years have been heavily impacted by a comprehensive refurbishment plan which has resulted in significantly higher costs than in a normal year. In addition to this grant money has been received to facilitate these works.

Ignoring the refurbishment costs (and grant monies received) would reflect a net profit of circa 4,000k. This coupled with a cash at bank of £7,833 reflects a healthy financial position in the face of escalating fixed costs such as electricity and other day to day expenses.

Achievements and Performance in 2022

In 2022 TVHC Committee meetings and the AGM were resumed face-to-face. The AGM was held in the Village Hall on 8 April and 32 people attended. The Annual Report and Accounts were presented and a round-up of community engagement events was given. A reminder was given of the opportunities to get involved in helping to organise and run community activities beyond the formal Committee business. The Dunpender Community Council representative outlined progress on road safety, re-opening the local footpath to Binning Wood, concerns about Motocross events and local EV charging points.

1. Work on the internal refurbishment of the hall progressed in early 2022. With a grant from the local Area Partnership, the old wooden floor in the main Hall was sanded and sealed and the old baby grand piano was removed. This made a huge difference to the look and feel of the Hall. Finally, funds were raised by various means, including funds from the local council's Community Intervention Fund, for the refurbishment of the very dilapidated Hall kitchen. The work was carried out through November and December. By sourcing good second-hand catering equipment, the Hall now has a fully equipped kitchen suitable for those running small catered events such as children's and family parties, funeral wakes and small weddings as well as community meals such as our Harvest Lunch, Pot Luck suppers and Burns Supper.
2. In terms of external repairs, the Committee continues to put pressure on the land agent Galbraiths who are responsible for the external upkeep of the Hall on behalf of the owner, the Earl of Haddington. The necessary urgent repairs needed are to the leaking roof, the chimney, the window frames, paintwork and a dangerous external stair at the back of the Hall. Little progress was made to complete these repairs satisfactorily. The Committee has also been in discussion with Galbraiths about their wish to transfer responsibility for the maintenance of the Cricket Pitch field, to the south of the village, over to the TVHC committee. This field is no longer in agricultural use but is used by local residents for recreational purposes. Again, little progress has been made.

Community Events in 2022

The Community Engagement Group (CEG) is a sub-group of the TVHCC.

Bird Box Activity, March

Local residents gathered to create bird boxes making 12 new bird box homes for blue tits or tree sparrows. The kits were assembled from locally sourced and recycled materials all cut, sanded and pre drilled and made ready to assemble. Some kits were also collected to be made at home.

Easter Trail & Activities, April

At Easter the children from the village and their friends enjoyed participating in the Easter themed trail around the village. Giant Sunflower seedlings were out for collection with donations being made to support the Ukrainian refugees settled in Edinburgh. A table tennis taster session on Easter Sunday in the village hall was also very popular.

Potluck Supper Special, May

17 local residents enjoyed a Potluck Curry Pub night with a great choice of delicious dishes. The Hall was welcoming with a big communal table where everyone could sit and enjoy each other's company over a nice meal.

Wednesday Walks

A regular group of 4-6 people from Tynninghame and neighbouring communities met up to enjoy local walks on most Wednesdays until July when other commitments took precedence.

Book Event and Afternoon Tea Talk, May

Over 30 people attended a book talk by a local author of a newly published book "Tynninghame, Landscapes and Lives" about the history of the gardens and wider landscape around Tynninghame House. A percentage of the book sales was donated to the Hall refurbishment fund plus donations for the tea and cakes provided by the volunteers of the CEG

Platinum Jubilee Children's Party, May

A children's party was held for some local families living in and around Tynninghame to celebrate the special occasion of the Queen's Jubilee.

Open Gardens, Tynninghame House, June

TVHCC is one of the nominated charities for this event. The local residents provided hot drinks and delicious cakes to all who visited the gardens. A donation of around £1,000 from the proceedings was received by the committee and put towards the kitchen refurbishment.

Bridge and Lunch, July

40 people enjoyed this successful fund raiser organised by the CEG. The event raised about £1,000 which was put towards the kitchen refurbishment fund. This amount, together with the money raised from the Tynninghame Gardens Open Day, took us much closer to our target.

Summer Fair in the Fields, August

A wonderful day was had by about 100 people at our summer fair organised by the CEG. The fair was run as a community event and not for profit with any donations received being used to offset expenses. Any extra funds received were put towards the village Hall upkeep.

Apple Pressing, September and October

In the autumn we had two very successful apple pressing events for the community and beyond. Generous donations for use of the press were given towards Hall funds.

Harvest Lunch, October

We held an excellent 3 course Harvest Lunch in the Hall with a 'sold out' event for 44 attendees. Although this was run as a community event, donations toward the Hall upkeep raised about £400.

Halloween Trail and Children's Activities, October

We held another Halloween event in the village with a pumpkin trail and fun and games in the Hall. The children all enjoyed being able to trick or treat this year and a big effort was made with some fancy dress outfits!

Christmas Wreath Making Workshops, December

We held another very successful series of 3 wreath-making workshops in the Hall. In total 62 wreaths were made by the people attending the workshops raising about £900. £100 of funds raised was be donated to East Lothian Food Bank and the rest will be used for the continuing Hall refurbishment and maintenance.

Christmas Party, December

Tynninghame Village Hall & Community Committee hosted a very enjoyable Christmas party in the Hall for all those living in the community. Among the 60 or so guests attending, we were very pleased to welcome some newcomers to the area as well as some familiar faces. The Tynninghame Sings group entertained us with some lively singing!

Christmas Concert, December

Our tradition of singing carols in the village began in 2019 when a small group of around 15 gathered in the cafe courtyard with local clarsach musician, Elinor Evans, to enjoy the age old Christmas Eve tradition of carol singing. This small gathering has grown each year with around 60 people attending in 2022. We hope to continue this tradition for many years to come.

Regular Classes/Groups

The popular Wednesday Yoga classes continued to attract 50-60 people each week. Dog training classes ran through till June but have since stopped. There is now also a Pilates and Fitness class for all on a Tuesday evening.

A Craft and Connect group continued fortnightly on a Tuesday evening as a place of creativity and exchange of ideas.

The regular Singing class on Wednesday evenings started with a good base of 6 -12 singers and has now grown to a group of around 18- 20 regular attendees.

Table tennis sessions are often held on a Sunday afternoon and are enjoyed by all ages.

Artisan events.

On every last Sunday of the month there is a Wee Fair held in the Hall where local artists and makers sell their art and craft work.

Columba 1400

The Trustees were pleased to be able to host a group from Columba 1400 in April and May for 5 days of activities in and around the Hall at a special reduced rate. Columba 1400 is an award winning social enterprise and charity enabling young people and the key adults in their lives to discover their true potential.

Future Plans

The programme of Hall refurbishments is now complete and the Committee's efforts will now turn to marketing its new improved facilities in order to establish a full programme of classes and activities through the week and a regular body of Hall users. We will continue to stimulate a lively programme of community events for the village through the year and hold regular social events.

We will continue to support community concerns around speeding and are trying to make the village safer for our families. We are working on developing a better network of footpaths and walks from the village in order to allow families a safe space to enjoy the surrounding coast and countryside.

Erica Wimbush (Chair)

Shireen Green (Secretary)