

Come and join us

It's that time of year where we are turning our thoughts to Spring Time and the Tynninghame Village Hall and Community Committee AGM. We have been very fortunate for the last few years to have had members on the Hall Committee who have provided continuity. This year, sadly for us, two of our long standing members have decided to step down at the AGM.

In advance of the AGM, on Friday 5th of April, we thought that it might be helpful to give you an idea about what many of us in the community do and to let you have a think about what you might have to offer. In doing so, we are hopeful that some of you reading this article might consider joining us either on the Committee or as an active volunteer.

We have a very lively events calendar which is a focus for the social life of the village. This is very dependent on the active involvement of villagers either on the committee or as volunteers. The Village Hall is a fantastic resource for the village, but it does require ongoing upkeep. The revenue we are able to raise through lettings and community fundraising activities helps to support the maintenance of the Hall and some not for profit community events.

The Village Hall and Community Committee (TVHCC) is a registered charity, registered with Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO) in the summer of 2021. The charity changed its name from Tynninghame Village Hall SCIO to what it now is. This was following a decision based on community feedback that the activities in the hall were as much about bringing the community together as they were about maintaining the Hall.

The purpose of the Committee is:

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

So, what does this mean in reality?

There are three ways in which you can be involved with the Committee: -

1. As a full Committee Member
2. As a Hall volunteer
3. As a member of the Community Engagement Group (CEG) or
4. As a combination of all three

Being a Committee Member

Whilst there are some office bearing roles on the Committee e.g. Chair, Treasurer and Secretary we also have ordinary members. This year we are looking to recruit a new Secretary and some more members onto the Committee. Past experience has demonstrated that a committee member would be expected to spend 2 to 3 hours a month on Committee business. This is determined by whether or not there are meetings or community activities taking place.

The business of the Committee could involve thinking about new ventures and ideas which would contribute to both income generation and wider community involvement with the Hall. There are also policies and procedures required to manage the Hall on a day to day basis. As a Registered charity, there are also obligations that we must strive to meet in terms of proper governance. These would all be fully explained if you would like to consider joining the Committee.

Being a Hall Volunteer

Our Hall Volunteers provide ad hoc support to the Committee and the Hall Keeper.

This ad hoc support could take the form of:-

- Providing a helping hand at community activities in the Hall e.g. setting up/clearing up
- Supporting us at fundraising events i.e. Scottish Open Gardens
- Contributing to the baking /cooking needs for such events
- Helping shift logs following a delivery
- Assisting if there is a need for a “big clean”.

And for those who are sometimes available during the day, we have a small What's App group of volunteers who are willing at times to:-

- show people round the Hall.
- open the Hall for an event if the Hall keeper is not available.
- put on the Hall heating in advance of an event .
- be a support in the event of an untoward incident.

The role is not onerous and people can give as much or as little time as they wish.

Being a member of the Community Engagement Group

This can be the busiest group but also perhaps the most rewarding. This group is responsible for organising the annual calendar of community events plus supporting and participating in them.

Who can join? - anyone living in the Community can join

What does CEG actually do?- organises the pub nights, competitions, Hall fund raising events and Community activities for all, importantly the children's events e.g Halloween and Easter fun.

What else? The Village What's app provides a vehicle to flag community issues that might be of interest and signpost to relevant authorities where required. It can offer support in times of need (e.g during Covid a weekly update line was established.)

We hope you will agree that the Tynninghame Village Hall and Community Committee and its sub-groups enhance the life of the village. We hope that you will continue to support us in whatever ways you can, whether it is by participating in events, contributing ideas, becoming a Hall volunteer or joining the Committee or one of its sub-groups. Your input will help ensure the continuing vitality of the village!