

Tynninghame Village Hall & Community Committee (TVHCC)

Trustees Annual Report

1 January 2023 - 31 December 2023

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Charity Trustees

Erica Wimbush, Chair until April 2023, Secretary May 2023-April 2024 (joined June 2017, left May 2024)

Ian Staples, Chair from May 2023 (joined May 2023)

Tim Harper, Treasurer (joined April 2018)

Shireen Green, Secretary until April 2023 (joined August 2020, left April 2024)

Carol Crowther (joined June 2020)

Danny Wight (joined October 2020)

John Crowther (joined April 2023)

Changes since last AGM

Alison McGregor (joined June 2020, left April 2023)

Donald Gillies (joined May 2023, left Nov 2023)

TVHCC Objectives and Activities

The Charity was set up in 2017. It's aims are –

- 1.1 To provide a venue for the local community and others to come together and participate in various activities and events to build a stronger sense of citizenship and community.
- 1.2 To offer a space for local groups to pursue creative activities and to advance the arts, heritage, culture and science.
- 1.3 To organise a range of recreational facilities, classes and groups with a view to improving the quality of life of residents.

Much of the focus of the charity is running and maintaining the internal fabric of the Village Hall supporting social gatherings e.g, Burns Night, Christmas activities and a regular monthly pub night. In addition to community events there are regular weekly yoga, singing, dancing and fitness classes.

The charity mainly benefits those in the community, located primarily in Tynninghame village, Tynninghame House, Lawhead, Knowes, Newbyth and Tynefield. However, people from outwith this area, e.g. Dunbar, East Linton and Whitekirk, participate in many of the events and classes.

Structure, governance and management

Our governing document is a constitution which was set up in 2017. In 2021, in consultation with the community, we agreed to change the name of the charity to Tynninghame Village Hall and Community (TVHC) to reflect our wider role and engagement with the community to promote social connectedness and to facilitate discussion on wider issues affecting the community, this in addition to the maintenance and running of the village hall. The Committee includes a local representative from the Dunpender Community Council, which is the main local liaison body with East Lothian Council.

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

Financial Review

The audited accounts for the year ending 31 December 2023, showed a net profit of £9897. It was £3927 in 2022. The increase on last year due to increased income from Hall rentals of £19,117. This increase includes the additional income from the Agatha Christie film production (see below) and a series of successful community fund-raisers (£4,122).

This income combined with a cash at bank of £7,833 indicates a healthy financial position at the close of 2023, despite increased fixed costs such as electricity, firewood and wages.

Achievements and Performance in 2023

The AGM was held in the Village Hall on 5 April 2024 and 19 villagers attended. The Annual Report and 2023 Accounts were presented and a round-up of Village Hall and community engagement events was given.

Hall bookings. The Hall has continued to host regular weekday classes such as yoga, singing and country dancing. It has also been hired this year by a variety of external organisations for training events and for a public enquiry. At weekends there are occasional wedding hires and bookings for smaller family events. The Committee agreed in 2022 to keep the number of weddings in the year to a maximum of six as such larger events can occasionally create parking and noise issues for residents.

Hall maintenance. Following the completion last year of a major Hall refurbishment programme, including the Kitchen, we have had the electrical wiring surveyed and upgraded to meet the required British standards. The chimneys and roof have also been repaired by our landlords (Tynninghame Estate) and we now experience fewer leaks. The floor of the outside storage shed has also been upgraded and it is now a much cleaner and safer space. The Hall's external paintwork is still awaiting attention.

Community meeting with Galbraith. The Committee hosted a community meeting on 13 October 2023 with a representative from Galbraith, who manage the Estate properties, to discuss the maintenance of common green areas within the village and

the Estate's longer-term plans for remaining Estate properties/ land in the village. Most people found this meeting reassuring and the Committee will support ongoing communication between the village and the Estate.

Film production. Most Tynninghame residents enjoyed having the Agatha Christie film production ("Murder is Easy") located in the village last June. The village hall was used as a base for actors and the production team. The team managed the use of the village in a way that was not too disruptive for residents. The Hall benefited from the rental income, and a further donation of £2,000 was paid to Galbraith to be spent in the community/village hall.

Community Events in 2023

The Community Engagement Group (CEG) is a sub-group of the TVHCC. It is a very active group of volunteers with lots of ideas and provides support for community events. New members to the CEG are always welcome. A summary of the community activities held in the last year include:

- a. Three very successful fund-raisers - Christmas wreath-making workshops, a Bridge Lunch and the serving of a tea and cakes at the Tynninghame House Scotland Open Gardens event
- b. Two popular regular fun events – a Summer Fair and a Burns Night
- c. A regular monthly Pub Night, often combined with an activity organised by residents, such as a summer BBQ and a wine knowledge quiz
- d. Seasonal activities for local children including the very popular Halloween trail and weekend of activities at Easter, including goose egg painting in the Hall
- e. Two community apple-pressing sessions with residents using a Community Apple press
- f. Christmas activities, including a party for residents and Christmas Eve carol singing in the café courtyard, accompanied by a local resident playing a harp

Information on community events is displayed on the Village Hall notice board, the hall website, in the bus shelter and via the Tynninghame Community WhatsApp group.

Plans

In the coming year, the Committee's attention will turn to improving the Hall booking system and to marketing its new improved facilities 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 activities for the village throughout the year and by holding regular social events.

We are gradually developing a better network of footpaths and walks from the village to allow families a safe space to enjoy the surrounding coast and countryside. We will continue to support the addressing of community concerns around community green spaces, road traffic and speeding to make the village safer for our residents.

Signed by

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Crowther', with a flourish at the end.

TVHCC Secretary: John Crowther