

TYNINGHAME VILLAGE HALL & COMMUNITY

Tynninghame Village Hall and Community Committee

**Annual Report
January to December 2024**

Charity Trustees

Ian Staples : Chair (*Appointed May 2023*)

John Crowther : Secretary (*Appointed April 2023*)

Tim Harper: Treasurer (*Appointed April 2018*)

Carol Crowther: Community Engagement Lead (*Appointed June 2020*)

Danny Wight: Dunpender Community Council Representative (*Appointed October 2020*)

Rob Hyndman: (*Appointed April 2024*)

Sophie Wild: (*Appointed May 2024*)

Erica Wimbush: (*Resigned May 2024*)

Shireen Green: (*Resigned May 2024*)

Email: tyninghamevillagehall@gmail.com

Hall Bookings: TynninghameBookings@gmail.com

Website: tyninghamevillagehall.org.uk

Facebook: www.facebook.com/Tynninghame

Charity Number (Scotland) SC047531

Address:

Tynninghame Village Hall,
Main Street,
Tynninghame,
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Auditor:

EQ Accountants

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TVHCC Objectives and Activities

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

- ❖ 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.
- ❖ To offer a space for local groups to pursue creative activities and to advance the arts, heritage, culture and science.
- ❖ 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 and 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 out with 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, the Charity name was changed to Tynninghame Village Hall and Community (TVHCC) 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.

Objectives:

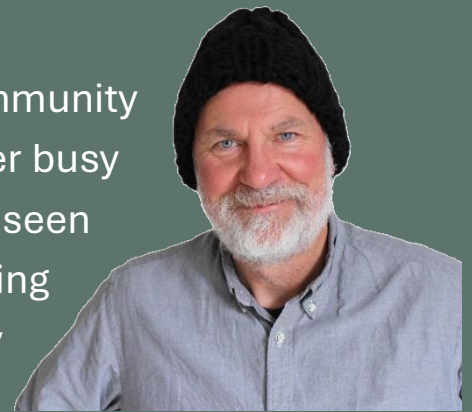
1.1 The advancement of citizenship or community development through the provision of a venue for the local community and others to come together and participate in various activities and events.

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.

Chair Report

As Chair of Tynninghame Village Hall & Community Committee, I am pleased to report on another busy and productive year for our charity. 2024 has seen significant progress in managing and improving our much loved Hall, expanding community engagement, and strengthening our governance.



Annual General Meeting

The AGM was held in the Village Hall on 11 April 2024 with 19 villagers attending. The Annual Report and 2024 Accounts were presented, alongside a round up of Village Hall activities and wider community engagement.

Hall Management and Maintenance

The Committee has continued to focus on maintaining the Hall as a safe, welcoming, and sustainable space.

- ❖ **Essential works:** Electrical upgrades were completed, PAT testing carried out, and the chimney swept. Repairs were also made to floorboards, toilets, and kitchen fittings.
- ❖ **Major improvements:** The exterior of the Hall was repainted, greatly enhancing its appearance. A new cooker was purchased and installed, replacing the old broken unit.
- ❖ **Future planning:** The Hall floor required remedial repair works; we have been informed it is too thin to sand again and may require full replacement in future. The Committee is monitoring this closely. We are also exploring replacing the open fire with a more efficient wood-burning stove to reduce smoke and improve heat.
- ❖ **Ongoing maintenance:** Work has included reviewing paintwork, renewing signage, updating the Hall inventory, and considering replacement of the Hall noticeboard.

Hall Bookings and Finances

Hall bookings remain our main source of income and continue to reflect the Hall's role as a vibrant hub for the village.

- ❖ **Regular use:** The Hall has hosted weekday yoga, keep fit, and country dancing classes. It has also been hired by external organisations for training and presentations.
- ❖ **Celebrations and gatherings:** In 2024 there were seven weddings, seven children's parties, several memorial events and funeral teas, and the regular Wee Fair.
- ❖ **Income:** Bookings were slower early in the year but recovered strongly. We have reviewed our pricing policy, with new charges for weddings and regular use phased in for 2025 to ensure fairness and sustainability.
- ❖ **Fundraising and donations:** Additional income came from events such as the Tynninghame House Open Gardens, bridge Lunches, wreath-making workshops, and individual donations.
- ❖ **Financial health:** We ended the year in a strong position, with healthy reserves. The Committee is considering placing some funds into short-term savings while maintaining sufficient reserves for operations and planned improvements.
- ❖ **Systems:** We investigated new systems for booking management and invoicing. A new Facebook page has been set up and work is underway to replace our 15-year-old website.

Community Engagement

Strengthening community spirit remains central to our work. In 2024 we hosted a wide range of well-attended events, including:

- ❖ The Summer Fair and BBQs
- ❖ Apple pressing and harvest celebrations (with Tynninghame Community Farm)
- ❖ Pub nights and the Village Christmas Party

Although some events were affected by weather, these activities continue to be valued and enjoyed.

A highlight this year was the opening of a new core public footpath linking the village to Binning Wood, following permission from the Estate and the respective landowners. It was supported financially by Dunpender Community Council and East Lothian Council.

Governance and Partnerships

The Committee has kept governance under regular review. Policies, procedures, and risk assessments have been updated, and the Hall Handbook is being refreshed to align with best practice. The Hall Keeper and Cleaner all received revised pay rates, recognising the value of their contributions.

We continue to work closely with:

- ❖ **Dunpender Community Council** on local issues
- ❖ **Galbraith Estate**, (*the Hall Landlord*) including hosting a well-attended community meeting in October 2024 to discuss communal green space maintenance and estate property plans. Villagers found this reassuring, and the Committee will support ongoing communication.

Community Engagement Group Report

The Community Engagement Group (CEG) has had a vibrant and productive year, delivering a wide range of activities that brought residents together, strengthened connections, and raised valuable funds for the upkeep and development of Tynninghame Village Hall.



Highlights of 2024

- Seasonal Celebrations:
 - January saw our ever popular Burns Night Supper.
 - The Annual Summer Fair was a fun day with Animal Dress up and a Bric-a-Brac stall
 - The annual Harvest Lunch in October was enjoyed by many, with proceeds shared between the Hall and the Community Farm.
 - Our Summer BBQ enjoyed excellent weather with plenty of conversation flowing.
 - Halloween guising and party brought together 16 children and 12 adults for a fun-filled weekend of community activities.
 - Christmas festivities included wreath-making workshops , a lively Christmas party, and well-attended Christmas Eve carols, which attracted over 40 residents despite the weather.
- Fundraising & New Equipment:
 - Profits from the Bridge Lunch in September funded a much-needed new cooker for the kitchen.

- Regular Pub Nights continued to provide an informal and sociable space, with experiments in scheduling (e.g. Saturday evenings) helping to broaden appeal.
 - Volunteers also carried out a full kitchen and shed clean, paving the way for a clear inventory and more efficient management of hall resources.
 - A Bluetooth speaker, Overhead projector and Pop up screen has been acquired through purchases and Donations for use.
- New Activities:
 - Willow weaving workshops were introduced in early 2024 with an external tutor, widening the range of creative opportunities available.
 - The return of Pix in the Stix, building on past popularity.
 - A Visit to the Community farm went ahead on Saturday July 13th despite the poor weather - this was an enjoyable and informative afternoon.

Community Impact

The past year has seen an encouraging increase in participation across age groups, with more families and young residents engaging in village life. Our events not only raise vital funds but also play a key role in reducing isolation, fostering intergenerational connections, and keeping traditions alive.

The CEG would like to thank all the volunteers, residents, and local partners who contributed time, energy, and creativity to making this year such a success. Together, we are ensuring that Tynninghame Village Hall remains at the heart of our community.

Treasurers Report: Financial Review of the Year 2024

The audited accounts for the year ending 31 December 2024, showed a net surplus of £8,456.08 Compared to £9,897.71 in 2023. Our annual turnover was £22,688.99.

Overall Expenditure increased by c.£500 to £14,232.91 (2023: £13,727.69) This is due from a decrease in Hall Keeper and Cleaning costs alongside an increase in hall Maintenance costs, Heating and Lighting and the expenditure to run our community events.

The TVHCC Unrestricted reserves stand at £26,187.49 (2023: £17,731.41).

This level of income combined with a cash at bank of £26,187.49 indicates a healthy financial position at the close of 2024.

Tynninghame Village Hall Accounts for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

	2024 £	2023 £
<u>Income</u>		
Hall Rent / Other	19,194.93	19,117.63
Community Events	3,441.37	4,122.25
Bank Interest	32.69	25.52
Other Income	20.00	-
Grant Income	-	360.00
Total Income	<u>22,688.99</u>	<u>23,625.40</u>
<u>Expenses</u>		
Hall Keeper & Cleaning	4,064.36	4,894.85
Hall Refurbishment	-	2,150.00
Insurance	359.88	359.00
Repairs & Maintenance	2,429.79	729.60
Accountancy	276.00	264.00
Heat & Light	2,709.43	2,231.08
Miscellaneous Expenses	1,554.27	682.38
Community Events	1,583.70	915.03
Licenses	505.48	751.75
Rent	750.00	750.00
Total Expenses	<u>14,232.91</u>	<u>13,727.69</u>
Profit / (Loss) for Period	<u>8,456.08</u>	<u>9,897.71</u>
<u>Funds on Hand:</u>		
Cash at bank at 31st December 2023	17,731.41	7,833.70
Profit / Loss for Period	8,456.08	9,897.71
	<u>26,187.49</u>	<u>17,731.41</u>
<u>Represented By:</u>		
Cash at bank at 31 December 2024	26,187.49	17,731.41
Cash on Hand	-	-
	<u>26,187.49</u>	<u>17,731.41</u>

Performance of 2024

The TVHCC AGM was held on Friday 5th April whereby 19 people were in attendance inclusive of the Committee. The 2023 Annual Report and 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, pilates, singing, and country dancing. It has also been hired for elections, and some external equipment hires have taken place.

At weekends, there are occasional wedding bookings and smaller family events. In 2022, the TVHC Committee agreed to cap the number of weddings to a maximum of six per year, as larger events can sometimes create parking and noise issues for residents. Being in the heart of the village, we aim to minimise any inconvenience for our neighbours.

A total of 68 bookings were made in 2024, with some of these being multiple dates for classes, with only 2 bookings being cancelled.

7 of these bookings were made by Tynningham Village Residents.

Hall Maintenance:-

- ✓ Electrical system upgraded – high-capacity underground cable installed, breaker switch wired to meter, and kitchen fusebox upgraded
- ✓ PAT testing carried out and certificate issued
- ✓ Chimney swept
- ✓ Floorboards repaired – some work completed (ongoing concerns remain about thin boards; full replacement under consideration).
- ✓ Kitchen jobs completed – including gantry lights connection
- ✓ Hot water urn replaced
- ✓ Faulty main door closure repaired

- ✓ Shed floor refurbishment completed, with costs reimbursed by Galbraiths

External & Grounds

- ✓ Weeding and tidying at the front of the Hall
- ✓ Planters refreshed
- ✓ Noticeboard replacement authorised after damage by storm
- ✓ New benches agreed for cricket pitch and football field

Community-led Improvements

- ✓ Deep clean of kitchen and shed carried out by the Community Engagement Group
- ✓ Shed tidied and reorganised by volunteers
- ✓ Mould-affected areas identified in toilets and Hall, with plans for specialist treatment and repainting in 2025.

Community Meeting with Galbraiths:-

The Committee hosted a community meeting on 11th October 2024 with a representative from Galbraiths, who manage the Tynninghame Estate on behalf of Lord Haddington's Estate. This was well attended by around 20 members of the community.

Here we discussed the maintenance of common green areas within the village and the Estate's longer-term plans for remaining Estate properties and land within the village.

The Committee will support ongoing communication between the village and the Estate. Details of this meeting are available on the Tynninghame Village Hall Website.

Paths around Tynninghame:-

Core path to Binning Wood

From 2017 – 2020 members of Dunpender Community Council and ELC's paths officer, Nick Morgan, negotiated with landowners (Tynninghame Estate and Quentin Gray) to agree to a core path from the Old School House to Binning Wood. This follows the old 'coffin path' villagers used to walk to get to the Whitekirk church.

Funding for whindust surfacing, gates and signs was eventually secured in the ELC 2023 paths budget but this was then diverted into repairing the John Muir Way, following a cliff fall near Dunbar.

Frustrated by this further hurdle, Tynninghame residents resolved to do the minimum necessary to open the route: crowd funding for the two essential gates and volunteer work to instal them.

Happily, however, Dunpender Community Council was able to provide half the funding and the remainder came from the Area Partnership Amenities Budget. The route was opened with a community walk on 10 Feb. 2024.

New footpaths around Tynninghame.

Two Villagers, Rhys and Daniel, have spent several years negotiating with the Tynninghame Estate and residents of Tynninghame House to agree some new paths around Tynninghame. These include a route from the village to Tynninghame Links across fields to the north of the big house and a route along the mill lade to Knowes Mill and the John Muir Way.

Rhys produced a map of footpaths around Tynninghame which can be found on the TVHC website and a hard copy in the bus shelter.

Footpaths leaflet.

Daniel Wight and Anne Pearson have drafted a revised walks leaflet for the East Linton area which incorporates the new paths around Tynninghame. A freelance designer, Lisa Douglas of Creative Link in Haddington, has produced it and printing is awaiting confirmation of funding via the Dunpender Community Council. Once printed copies will be widely available and a copy mounted in the bus shelter.

GET INVOLVED!

Volunteers are
our greatest
Asset!



We have a number of subgroups to encourage and enable a greater community engagement. We warmly welcome all residents in the community and encourage those who want to get involved in village activity to join any group which is of interest to them. This is an ideal way to become involved without having to join the Committee.

To get involved you can get in touch with the named contact for the group, chat to any of the TVHC committee members who will be happy to help you, or you can email us on:

TynningameVillageHall@gmail.com

Plans for the Future:-

Planned Maintenance & Improvements

- Hall flooring – assessment to determine extent of damage
- Painting and redecoration – interior painting of the toilets and Hall (*with treatment of mould-affected areas*)
- Wood-burning stove – consultation with residents and investigation of installation costs as an alternative to the open fire (to improve efficiency and reduce smoke)
- Noticeboard replacement
- Installation of new benches for the football field and cricket pitch
- Windows cleaning and possibly contracting a new window cleaner

Hall Management & Governance

- Review of Hall Handbook and governance documents – ongoing update of policies, procedures, and risk assessments
- Booking system – investigation of Hallmaster software to improve bookings and invoicing
- Hall Pricing review
- New key safe to be installed at the rear of the Hall.

Community & Sustainability Projects

- Tynninghame Community Heat Project – Decarb Tynninghame – feasibility study underway with CARES
- Event programme – continuation of community events including Harvest Festival, Christmas Party, Pub Nights, Wreath-making, and others
- Website renewal – development of a new, modern, user-friendly site to replace the 15-year-old current version.

Thank You!

We would like to say a huge thank you to all the Staff and volunteers

Tynninghame Village Hall would not be the vibrant, welcoming place it is today without the dedication, care, and goodwill of so many people. We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to our Hall Keeper Eric and Hall Cleaner Ewelina for their hard work in ensuring the hall is always ready, safe, and spotless for the many activities, events, and celebrations that take place throughout the year.

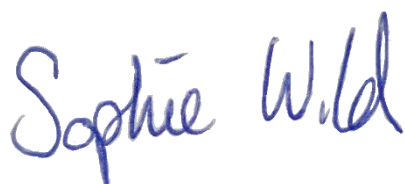
We are equally indebted to the many volunteers who give their time, skills, and energy so generously. From organising and running events and tending to the building, to supporting fundraising, decorating for special occasions, and simply lending a hand when needed - each contribution makes a real difference. It is this community spirit that makes the hall such a valued space for everyone.

The continued success of the Village Hall is a true team effort, and we are deeply grateful to all who have played a part. We look forward to building on this success together in the years ahead - creating more opportunities for people to come together, share experiences, and strengthen our wonderful community.

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' Annual Report above. Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signed By:



TVHCC Secretary: Sophie Wild

29th September 2025