

## AVH&RG AGM 2019; Annual Report by Chair

Welcome to you all, and thank you for attending our AGM tonight!

I hope you are enjoying the comfort of our new chairs – and have had a chance to complete our quiz; identifying 15 of the Events enjoyed in the Hall this year!

Marking another year at the Village Hall has both joy and purpose.

Spring has sprung (at last) and the snowdrops and daffodils blooming in the Rec give way to the sounds of birds building nests and children playing on the zipwire and the swings, with little ones enjoying the new climbing Beech Tower. Visitors remind us how lucky we are to have this green park, given so many years ago by generous benefactors, including Billy and June Simpson. We celebrated many years of the Park last September; an opportunity to thank the many people since who have loved and created this space for us.

With gifts come responsibility, for all of us, and we continue our inspection regime, both weekly and annually, aiming to ensure the park is safe and damage free for all our users. Each of us has a share in caring for it; picking up rubbish, making sure dogs stay in the permitted areas to protect our children, helping our children to enjoy and appreciate it by taking care of it, as well as playing and spending time in it with their friends and families. We thank our caretaker, Gordon for doing so many of the (so often invisible) jobs which keep it safe and beautiful; clearing out the gutters, spreading grit on icy surfaces, emptying bins, checking the equipment.

Potential hirers eye the green space outside as a unique attraction; we have hosted parties, festivals and weddings whose celebrations have spilled out on to the terrace, and into the park. Inside, meanwhile, the Hall's flexible spaces, and, hopefully, friendly welcome, make it a venue suitable for many purposes.

Our regular classes and clubs provide a range of exercise and socialising opportunities; (Zumba, Healthy Life, Pilates, Tea Dance, Lunch Club, Pie and Peas, Film Club)

Young people enjoy Scouts and the Youth Project, as well as outdoor fun in the Park.

Groups, such as AONB, use the Hall for training and conferences;- recently we had an Otter Spotting training event, as well as wool felting Craft courses.

Events in the Hall include the iconic Pantomime, written and directed successfully this year for the first time by Laura Charlton, the annual Folk Festival and New Year Ceilidh, both growing in fame and popularity every year. Our Highlights performances showcased the talents of Louise Jordan, with her tales of intrepid WW1 women in November, while Jack and the Beans Talk brought giant puppets to entertain the tinies last Christmas. We are working hard to prepare for Phoenix Dance on June 7- we are very lucky to be hosting this nationally acclaimed troupe! (Tickets still available online, and from Jan)

Much of the preparation and planning goes on unseen behind the scenes and once again thanks are due to our able and vigilant caretaker Gordon, our sparkly cleaner Jane Walsh, and menders and fixers Ray, Christina – and Fred.....

*The trustees have ambitions too; to provide more activities and events for children, as well as upgrading some of the play equipment. We want to recruit new Trustees to inspire, advise and help with this – Get in touch to Join the Events Team, or the Refreshments Team, or if you have unused Technology or Accounting skills you'd like to put into practise!*

I would personally like to say a very big thank you to all my fellow trustees, and to the many other helpers this year who have given of their time, skills and enthusiasm in bringing so many activities, events and celebrations to our Village Hall. I hope you will agree to stand again, or to join us for the first time as trustees for the coming year.

**We have a special thank you to say this year, as Jane Hughes, who has acted ably as Treasurer for the last 6 years, wishes to stand down. This is not proving quite as easy as hoped, as treasurers are hard to come by, and Jane is kindly continuing to fulfil some treasurer's tasks at the moment. But we felt that our AGM was an appropriate time to recognise, celebrate and appreciate the tremendous work she has done as treasurer over the past 6 years.**

Jane joined the trustees at a difficult time for the Hall. Money was tight and finances were fragile, and Larry was extremely grateful – and remains so to this day – for Jane’s generous act in taking over as treasurer. Since then the income of the Hall has doubled. She (it does sometimes seem singlehandedly) has transformed the Hall’s fortunes, enabling much maintenance, improvement and new initiatives to take place, while building a healthy balance of funds to ensure that this can continue.

Jane is extremely efficient, and does expect that other people will be too (she is sometimes disappointed.....) She has formalised the booking process, created a clearer pricing structure, developed a system of spreadsheets, diarising, and checks and balances which make sure money is banked, invoices go out -and largely are returned- on time, and our auditor is happy.

Jane is also brilliant at making successful funding bids, and ensuring our legal duties with the Charities Commission, licences and insurance are fulfilled.

In the last 2 years, Jane has taken on a much wider brief, as we completed the transition of management responsibilities, such as caretaking and cleaning duties (until we found Gordon and Jane 2), front of house and refreshment duties – in fact she has stored most of the Hall’s alcohol at her house, until rescued by Jan very recently.

Personally, I would like to say a huge thank you to Jane for her clear sightedness, efficiency, energy and generosity in supporting me as Chair. I know all our Trustees, and everyone who knows Jane and has seen the work she does will want to join me in showing our appreciation and thanks.

Allendale Village Hall is part of the Heart of Allendale and the Allen Valleys. With our friends and colleagues we aim to continue to provide a thriving and responsive community space where locals, friends and visitors can share ideas, express themselves, support each other, dance and sing.....

Come and Visit!

Check out our events on our website, noticeboard and Area Notices

Come and Join Us!!

# ALLENDALE VILLAGE HALL & RECREATION GROUND

## Audited Receipts and Payments Account For Year Ending 31st January 2019

<u>RECEIPTS</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>PAYMENTS</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>
User Groups hall hire	5,901.50	6168.00	Water	748.26	685.06
Hall Hire	8,074.00	6927.50	Electricity	1,942.65	2281.00
Highlights Theatre	1,110.00	0.00	Heating Oil	2,365.77	2043.30
AVH Group Donations	1,959.04	2437.96	Cleaning & caretaking	3,665.00	1723.91
Fawside rent	2,604.00	2604.00	Calor Gas	135.00	68.50
AONB rent	6,050.00	0.00	Bar Expenses	1,035.01	6140.13
Bar takings	3,197.01	8989.48	Advertising	148.00	189.55
Sundry income	999.40	677.50	Insurance	2,133.03	2059.12
interest	6.26	2.01	Local History cash out	0.00	42.00
Local History cash in	0.00	42.00	Highlights Theatre	1,088.40	0.00
Refund of Overpaid Utilities	120.01	427.49	Licences	562.66	697.90
Refund of overpaid licence fee	0.00	720.00	Sundry Expenses	819.62	983.28
Donations	1,508.77	3,915.15	Servicing & Testing	419.10	1568.12
Grants - AVH	2,445.00	6070.80	Maintenance & Repairs	1,418.16	2708.06
Grants - Youth Project	0.00	0.00	Equipment	1,430.80	7641.68
			Capital Expenditure	5,979.20	2301.89
			Capex - Youth Project	846.22	400.00
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b><u>£33,974.99</u></b>	<b><u>£38,981.89</u></b>	<b>TOTAL PAYMENTS</b>	<b><u>£24,736.88</u></b>	<b><u>£31,533.50</u></b>
			<b>Total resources as at 31st January 2018</b>		<b><u>£21,775.10</u></b>
			Excess of Receipts over Payments		£9,238.11
			<b>Total resources as at 31st January 2019</b>		<b>£31,013.21</b>
			Comprising:		
			Contingency Deposit Account		£3,579.44
			Capital Reserve		£16,209.49
			Current Account		£11,224.28

  
**Jane Hughes**  
 Hon Treasurer, AVH & RG

WHEELSTEADS  
WOODHALL MILL  
HAYDON BRIDGE  
NORTHUMBERLAND  
NE47 6AS

Copy

Catherine Stirling Hill (Chair)  
Allendale Village Hall & Recreation Ground  
Leadgate  
Allendale  
Northumberland  
NE47 9PR

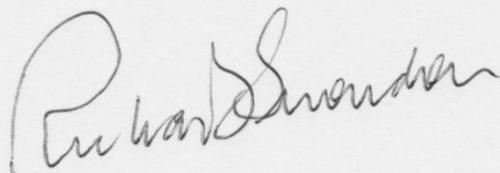
18 March 2019

Allendale Village Hall & Recreation Ground

**Auditor's Certificate**

I certify that I have examined the Books and Vouchers of the Allendale Village Hall & Recreation Ground and find that the aforementioned are in accordance therewith and represent a true and fair position as at the 31<sup>st</sup> January 2019.

Signed



Richard AD Snowdon