



# ALLENDALE VILLAGE HALL & RECREATION GROUND

**Registered Charity 1011360**

*Annual Report for AGM April 2018*

*Catherine Stirling Hill (Current Chair)*

According to the Charities' Commission, the object of our Charity is to provide facilities for recreation and other leisure-time occupations for the benefit of our community-and we hope we have continued to provide this over the past year. It is also, I believe, an opportunity to demonstrate how contributing to, and participating in village activities and events helps to nourish the strong community, Allendale and the Allen Valleys, of which we are a part. I hope we help to provide a balance to the competitive world we and our children face today, and a sense that joining others for fun, frolics and festivities (as well as learning and fitness of course!) helps to foster our feelings of belonging and sense of worth, at any age.

This has been a lively and challenging year for the Village Hall, as the current Trustees have taken over the management from Larry-and quickly learnt how very complex the task is! Once again, we thank you Larry for your tireless work, enthusiasm, ideas and success over many years.

As current Chair, I would like to say a very big thank you to my fellow Trustees, and, in particular, to Jane our Treasurer, who has not only kept a firm grip on the finances, as well as successfully making bids for funding specific items, but also taken on a range of duties not in her job spec! Ray our Buildings Manager has shown himself to be a worthy successor to Larry in his ability to fix almost anything! I would like to thank Gareth for his energy and detail in the installation of our new Audio system (funded by a grant from Lottery Awards for All, as well as Kenneth Hodcroft, The Parish Council and the Lions) which you enjoyed when you arrived, Jan for her enthusiasm in welcoming Highlights to the Hall, Margaret for, singlehandedly! managing the complications of this year's EPIC pantomime, Julie for her work with the Youth Project, Stephanie for organising Film Club, John for the ever popular Pie 'n Peas Nights and the Christmas Fair, and John Dobson for looking into a Policy for safe data use (unlike Facebook...). We also have two new Trustees, Dorothy and Liz, who have already helped in many ways, eg with Green Room reorganisation. I would also like to thank Christina, our tireless Minutes secretary, and more.

In achieving our aims, some of our highlights this year have included;

- The King Lear – our first Highlights show, well-attended and received despite the arrival of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Beast from the East – and the next show, Gone Cuckoo coming up next week
- Cinderella – a Lee Falkingham masterpiece, written to appeal to all Allendonians, and starring our very own Margaret, Nigel, Jonny, Kim, Emma, Tory, Paige, Peter, Lily, Cordelia, Heidi, Lesley- and with a stunning chorus line...
- A Dance Workshop, organised by Susie Tate for local children
- New Year Ceilidh, with the Hedgehog Skins, to be organised locally this year by the AVFF committee
- The Folk Festival, with the never to be forgotten Allendale Wolf burning...
- Christenings, wedding receptions, and funeral teas
- 60<sup>th</sup> and 90<sup>th</sup> birthday parties, Christmas parties, Race Nights and Jumble Sales
- The Farmers' Ball, and Grand Auction, Plant Sales, and many more....
- Youth Project and the Scouts



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- Classes have continued to be popular, especially Zumba, Pilates, Healthy Life and the new Capoeira Martial Arts Dance class
- Regular clubs, such as Art Club, Lunch Club, Tea Dance, Local History and the ever popular Film Club continue to use the Hall weekly or monthly
- In the Recreation Ground the Bowling season is about to start, and the Bowling Club is very keen to recruit new members (see Notice on gates for details)

I am still amazed at how much goes on here, how varied the activities are, and how broad a range of ages and interests are catered for.

To publicise our activities further, we have nearly completed setting up a website, supported by Paul Mingard, and funded by the William Leech Charity and on screen now. This will give you easier access to what's going on, publicise future events, and make it easy to contact us. We are also building up a library of photos related to the Hall and Rec ground, so if you have any you'd like to add please let us know.

Our new state-of-the-art Audio-visual system, including a new set of microphones, is already enhancing our usual groups, such as Zumba for music - and the Film Club, now enjoying a superb projector and sound system, as well as one-off bookings, such as weddings, drama productions, conferences and courses. It is easy to use, with a full set of simple instructions. Do let us know if you want to use them so we can show you how!

We have also been happy to work with Steve Blair, of the Allendale Inn, who now provides a brilliant pop-up Bar for events in the Hall, both large and small.

The New Hall, Foyer, kitchen and toilets have just been decorated and really smarten up the Hall. Thank you to Jane for another successful grant application from the Northumberland Community Chest, added to by Waitrose Community Matters and our Drama group.

In the coming year we hope to continue to expand the ways the Hall and Recreation Ground are used, with our new website publicising events and courses effectively, as well as providing a useful point of contact. Look out for the Highlights walk on 2nd June, where we are inviting members of nearby communities to join us for a walk/teas and entertainment in the Hall to publicise the exciting work they do. We are looking to host an increasing number of wedding receptions and are receiving very good feedback on the facilities we provide. We are in the process of working with B4RN (Broadband for Rural Northumberland) which will provide a much better Broadband service in the Hall in the near future.

We are very keen to continue our transition to ensure the vitality and service of the Hall into the future, with an enthusiastic team of trustees with clearly defined roles to most efficiently run both Hall and Rec ground. As well as our volunteer trustees, we now have a part time caretaker and a part time cleaner in post to keep the Hall and Grounds well looked after.

We are always looking for new Trustees who are keen to be part of our team, and may have skills – creative? practical? technological? secretarial? financial? local knowledge? persuasive? diplomatic? that would help us consolidate and expand what the Hall can offer. Please leave your name and a contact if you would like to know more.

Finances look healthy this year, and I now hand over to Jane for her financial report, after which there will be an opportunity for any questions you may wish to ask., and to volunteer as a Trustee.

## ALLENDALE VILLAGE HALL & RECREATION GROUND

### Receipts and Payments Account For Year Ending 31st January 2018

<u>RECEIPTS</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>PAYMENTS</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>
User Groups hall hire	6,168.00	5,726.00	Water	685.06	696.00
Hall Hire	6,927.50	9,549.82	Electricity	2,281.00	2,445.00
AVH Group Donations	2,437.96	2,564.75	Heating Oli	2,043.30	1,418.90
Fawside rent	2,604.00	2,604.00	Cleaning & caretaking	1723.91	1,020.00
Bar takings	8,989.48	9,265.24	Calor Gas	68.50	0.00
Sundry income	677.50	970.04	Bar Expenses	6,140.13	6,669.14
interest	2.01	2.30	Advertising	189.55	134.71
Local History cash in	42.00	0.00	Insurance	2,059.12	1,967.89
Refund of Overpaid Utilities	427.49	0.00	Local History cash out	42.00	0.00
Refund of overpaid licence fees	720.00	0.00	Licences	697.90	698.38
Donations	3,915.15	1,280.70	Sundry Expenses	983.28	680.04
Grants - AVH	6,070.80	12,500.00	Servicing & Testing	1,568.12	815.30
Grants - Youth Project	0.00	3,560.00	Maintenance & Repairs	2,708.06	1,138.58
			Equipment	7,641.68	3,176.30
			Capital Expenditure	2,301.89	24,657.14
			Capex - Youth Project	400.00	2275.28
			Loan Repayment	0.00	600.00
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b><u>£38,981.89</u></b>	<b><u>£48,022.85</u></b>	<b>TOTAL PAYMENTS</b>	<b><u>£31,533.50</u></b>	<b><u>£48,392.66</u></b>

**Total resources as at 31st  
January 2017** **£14,326.71**

Excess of Receipts over  
Payments **£7,448.39**

**Total resources as at 31st  
January 2018** **£21,775.10**

**Comprising:**

Contingency Deposit Account	£2,977.91
Deposit Account	£2,054.76
Current Account	£16,742.43

  
 Jane M Hughes  
 Hoh Treasurer, AVH & RG