

Waterhouses Community Association Trustees Annual Report 2019-20

Obviously, this Annual General Meeting is somewhat later in the year than usual. This has been a consequence of Lockdown re the Covid19 and not being able to get together. The Charity Commission agreed for us to hold it whenever possible. Alternatives to a Meeting, such as online or postal, was not really an option – so here we all are.

Last year was a mixed year of fortunes, we lost our Chair, Linda Wilson, and a previous Committee Member, Beryl Bateson. Both gave years of support and dedication to the Hall and are greatly missed. Vicky Beasley stepped in as Acting Chair, and she proved to be a very fitting candidate for the job.

We must thank the Committee Members and all the other Volunteers for their efforts to keep the Hall as a viable concern. We all know that modern life has many demands on your time – especially if you have a young family.

Projects

The Orchard – The trees are still thriving, and we hope that this will be the final year of them needing to be watered. This should make life slightly easier for Stefan – although I am sure new tasks will evolve.

The kitchen was refurbished, and a new cooker bought. Everyone agrees it is much improved and hopefully will be a selling point to people wanting to hire the Hall.

Holiday Lunches - A candidate for funds from the Lunch Club Funding came from a local source - Sol Walker, who has developed The Allotment School. We donated £900 to cover the cost of local children attending and learning about growing and cooking food, Team Building, and Design Projects amongst other things. This was to go ahead in April – but was obviously postponed to a later date.

Future Projects

It is hoped that the sale of the land at the rear of the Hall will be completed – any ideas for projects using this capital will be considered.

The floor in the main Hall needs refurbishing, and hopefully this will be done in the near future.

Hall Activities

The Hall ran the following regular activities:

Drop In, Cinema Club, Theatre Club (thanks to Pat), Grub Club, Puddle Jumpers Playgroup, (thanks to Vicky, Susan, Hannah and helpers), Family Nights (thanks to Terri and her helpers), Quiz Night, (thanks to Stefan and his team), Knit and Natter (thanks to Beryl), Wine Club, and Floorball (thanks to Elizabeth Shove).

There was also SOSA run by Jude, Social Club, Beavers, Cubs and Scouts and Music and Memories.

We started the year with a bang (literally) , holding a Big Bang Science event in April. It was an event for the children, but it was debateable who enjoyed it the most – the children or the adults!

The first Ceilidh of the year was very well supported, and we even made a profit! Unfortunately, the second was held in March and was quiet. This was probably due to the Covid19 virus arriving!

The Village Trip in July was to the Forbidden Corner and a good day was had by all. This was fully funded by the Association.

The Halloween Party proved to be a success once again, and we must thank Diane Wilkinson for organising it.

The Produce Show was very well supported and there were some excellent entries. Unfortunately the fresh produce entries were low, but this did not detract from the fierce bidding for them. Thanks go to the Judges of the various categories.

The Music and Memories Group is still proving popular and expanded its activities by having film afternoons complete with an ice cream interval. It is a self-financing, separate group from the Association.

Other events included the Members Trip to Wensleydale Creamery, Seniors Dinner, Tree Lighting and Children's Party, Summer and Christmas Fairs.

We also had our first overnight party booking! The Hall was transformed into a Harry Potter scene with small tents for the campers. Looking at the photos, everybody enjoyed themselves immensely!

Fund Raising

The Summer and Christmas Fairs this year, raised a gross total of £822. Father Christmas still proving to be very popular.

A Race Night organised by the Lions raised £436 to fund the Seniors Christmas Lunch and a Christmas Party. The Afternoon Musical Tea again proved popular. The other 2 main fundraising events, the Duck Race, and the Christmas Raffle, went very well, raising a total of £738.

Charitable Donations

A Coffee Mornings in aid of McMillan Nursing raised £587.

Regular Volunteers are very hard to come by and we would love to have more, so that we could put on more events in the future. To that end, we are looking to encourage more people to get involved. Wish us luck!

Financial

A copy of the audited Profit and Loss Report from the Treasurer is available. The full Accounts are available for anyone who wishes to look at them. The hi-lights are as follows:

Opening Balance of £34k and closing balance of £22k.

Attendance at all events have been lower, which reflects somewhat in the figures. The major purchase this year was the new kitchen and equipment. There was also an outstanding balance from the electric supplier which raised our payments considerably. New blinds were purchased for the main Hall, 2 trees (whose roots were causing concern) were felled. Maintenance costs were routine.

The local Parish Councillor again gave us £100 at Christmas time from her budget. Thanks go to Mrs. Wharton. The solar panels income was £721.

The Hall lettings have increased in value – helped by the fact that the Council hired the Hall twice for Elections.

The Hall shut completely on 16th March because of Government restrictions, but we carried on doing what we could. Vicky, along with other members of the Village set about providing a telephone help line and making everyone aware where to go if they needed help. Hopefully, it will not be too long before the Hall resumes its' usual activities.