

Tollerton Village Hall – Chairman’s Report 2004

We have had a fairly active year with fund-raising and have held a variety of traditional events. We have also started a Disco for ‘Year 7’ children from Easingwold School – this as an attempt to both fund raise and provide much needed entertainment for this group within the village. I am glad to report that the two held so far have been extremely popular.

Fund-raising is a difficult task and there are many other groups within the village who also have to do this. I am therefore pleased to report that there has been progress in the liaison between groups and this should pay dividends to us all over the coming year. However the much talked about amalgamation of the various groups is still at the discussion stage. We have had regular ‘soup lunches’ and ‘coffee afternoons’ over the winter and these were appreciated by residents of the village. While on the topic of fund-raising I should like to take this opportunity to thank all the committee for their support but feel I must especially thank Lorraine Fox, Betty Fineron, Pam Bowes, Sue Jackson and Sarah Spark.

The main users of the hall are Playgroup, Badminton, Bowls, Footloose and Yoga. We understand that a table tennis club will be starting over the summer months. We continue to get a reasonable amount of hall hires and this has included a Wedding Dance this year. My thanks go to our Booking Secretary Pam Fowler for her continued support.

Over the year the bar has been moved forward to provide more room – our thanks go to Darryl Lardiner for this. We have however failed to have the area refurbished but hope to get this done during the summer holidays when Playgroup are not using the hall. I am also pleased to report that the Parish Council has agreed the funding of the planned development of the back area.

Several maintenance issues have been dealt with and I am glad to report that the hall passed its inspection for both its Entertainment Licence and use as a Polling Station.

The Village Hall continues to ‘get by’ without any major investment. However this cannot continue as the list of areas needing attention grows. A simple walk round reveals

- Ceiling tiles need replacement
- Lighting needs upgrading
- Fans need replacement
- Central heating controls need relocating and a thermostat is required
- Header tank for heating needs all weather protection
- Flat Roof needs inspection - ?Replacement
- Roof windows need replacement
- Several double glazing units require replacement
- Outside woodwork requires painting
- Storage requires increasing
- Toilets need upgrading (including facility for the disabled)

- Kitchen needs replacement
- Décor in many areas e.g. pillars needs replacement

So we have reached a stage where we need substantial funding. We were unable to apply for the funds allocated to the Parish from recent housing developments as these were for 'outside areas'. We must develop a plan for the refurbishment of the hall and look for grants wherever we can. However it will also undoubtedly mean further fund-raising efforts on our part.

Ian Jackson
Chairman
Tollerton Village Hall
20th April 2004