

Tollerton Village Hall – Chairman's Report 2008

Our application to Awards for All national lottery funding was successful and we were given £10,000 towards refurbishment of the hall. I would like to thank our Treasurer Mrs Sarah Spark without whom completion of the lengthy application form would not have been possible. As this is my fifth report as Chairman of the Village hall Committee and I decided it would be wise to look back to my first report from 2004 and review the progress we have made. In that report I mentioned the need for the following work

- 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 repair and painting
- Storage requires increasing
- Toilets need upgrading (including facility for the disabled)
- Kitchen needs replacement
- Décor in many areas e.g. pillars needs replacement

I am pleased to report that following a tremendous effort by the Committee that a major part of the necessary work has been completed. We have now

- Replaced the ceiling tiles and the hall lights plus installed appropriate insulation
- Replaced the faulty fans
- Installed a new heating system which has removed the need for the boiler room and the exposed header tank.
- Provided hot water in the toilets and at the bar area
- Replaced all windows and doors which has improved both the look and the insulation of the Hall.
- Redecorated the Hall, refurbished the pillars and bar area.
- Increased the storage area
- Re-varnished the hall floor.

We have found that the flat roof is still satisfactory though the skylight dome windows do need replacing and the toilet upgrade is now planned for the Summer. Much of this work was completed in the last year and my thanks go to all who have helped with the organisation of this. In particular to Roger and Sarah Spark who organised much of the work to be done last Summer, to Roger, Sarah, Mark, Steff, Sue and Robert Fox who gave up valuable weekends to help with the decorating.

Unfortunately our work has exposed a leak in the hall roof and we have found that the tiles and roofing material on one side of the roof is now in extremely poor condition. We are awaiting quotes for the replacement of the affected side of the roof but will require financial assistance to complete this work. I believe this will require

attention before the winter or we may experience extensive damage to our new ceiling tiles. Thankfully we do have spares of these to deal with the current damage.

The soup lunches continue to be popular over the winter months and once again I thank Sue Jackson, Pam Bowes, Sarah Spark, Carol Hosker, Steff Brown and Lorraine Fox from the Village Hall Committee for providing this service. The New Years Eve party was also successful, (being the busiest we have ever had) and we plan to continue both these to help promote community spirit in the village.

We continue to raise funds with various projects but are committed to supporting the concept of joint fund raising and so our major project last year was a Burns Supper in aid of Fundraising For Tollerton. I am pleased to report that this was a success and we hope that this will now be established as an annual event in the village. My thanks go to everyone who helped make it such a good evening. We will once again be supporting the Open Gardens Artsfest by providing food and drinks in the hall.

The heating system update has provided us with a large area in the old boiler room that could be converted for other uses. This could offer storage and so allow the removal of the current storage area or it could be used to provide a meeting room with a separate entrance from the hall. This would require funding but could greatly increase the flexibility and use of the village hall. We would plan to consult current users and the rest of the village before embarking on any major change.

Ian Jackson
Chairman
Tollerton Village Hall
15th April 2008