

# Tollerton War Memorial Institute

## Chairman's Annual/AGM Statement

23<sup>rd</sup> April 2019, Black Horse Pub

Our village hall is an asset that we should all be very proud of, as a combination of maintenance, investment and social events over 2018, has made another memorable year, which is summarised here.

Firstly, thanks must go to all the hard work to each and every one of the committee members, their partners and friends for their dedication and hard work supporting the hall. Thanks must also be paid to Philippa and Stephen of Main Street for their dedication to keeping the hall clean and tidy for all the users; an important task that they carry out every week.

No major issues have arisen during the year. Some minor issues have occurred, but have been dealt with as they arose (front door, toilet ceiling). Heating continues to operate continuously without problems since the new boiler was installed on 28/11/16, but did trip off twice in March '18 due to the extreme cold weather (Beast from the east). This was due to the layout of the condensate pipe, which will be an item to review with the plumber at the next opportunity.

The hall had a new dishwasher fitted on 14th March '18, replacing the old unserviceable one, at a cost of £394. Also, the loft ladder was upgraded with a stronger unit as the old one had a limit of 100kg. The new one fitted on 2<sup>nd</sup> December '18 is very sturdy, with a limit of 150kg, at a cost of £286; ensuring better safety for anyone gaining access to the loft.

Two of the curtain rails were replaced with metal tracks, which did improve curtain operation initially. These cost around £82 each, yet still caused problems. So far, lubrication of the rails seems to help improve the free movement of the curtains, which will need to be monitored over time.

Other items purchased for the hall have been a Hot plate (£21.49) for use during our Brunches, and two large pans (£59.98) to accommodate larger volumes of food at events. Finally, an asbestos management survey of the building was commissioned and carried out on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> October by a Paul Lowther, with the view to provide evidence for future generations and maintainers. Fortunately the hall does not contain traces of asbestos, though a possibility within the old boiler at the rear.

No other items are outstanding regarding the maintenance of the hall, but the committee did agree that the area to the rear should be the priority for improvement; while the carpark at the front also requires resurfacing at some point in the future.

The hall sees a regular set of users; Zumba on a Monday evenings, Bowls over the winter on Wednesday evenings and Didi Dance on Friday mornings. Tuesday and Thursdays did see Bodyfit classes, but sadly as I write this in April '19, those classes have ceased since February '19. We continue to be hired by the NHS, who are very happy with the venue. On average, they use us 5-6 times a year, which greatly contributes to the halls income. We also have a small number of bookings to use the hall for parties and meetings.

The committee worked very hard to deliver a range of amazing events for the community over the year, including an extremely popular Chilli Hoe down, Cheese and wine evening, Christmas fair, Sunday Brunches, car treasure hunt and an Easter egg hunt, which together raised £2363.95. This all helped maintain the hall which has an annual cost of over £4000 to run.

New members are always required to help run the hall and help create events. This proves to be difficult to attract due to the nature of people's lives at these times, but despite this, a greater sense of community has been fostered by the hall through the committee's efforts, and is good to see.

Tim Brook, Committee Chairman.