

## **Tynninghame Village Hall and Community**

### **Minutes of AGM**

#### **Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April 2024 at Tynninghame Village Hall**

**Present:** Ian Staples (Chair), Erica Wimbush (Secretary), Tim Harper (Treasurer), Shireen Green (Committee member), Carol Crowther (Committee member), John Crowther (Committee member), Danny Wight (DCC-Dunpender Community Council member), Eric Martin (Hall Keeper), Barbara & Nigel Schofield, Rhys Green, Adam Stockwell, Stephen Roberts, Ian Arthurs, Jenni Vernon, Rae & Nathan Goode, Robert Hyndman, Sophie Wild

**Apologies:** Ali McGregor, Margaret Evans, David Simpson, Judy Riley, George & Marie Liston, Tony & Karine Maclver, Chris Gunstone, Morag Cooke

#### **Welcome**

Ian Staples, as chair, welcomed everybody to the meeting. He gave a brief introduction to the charity highlighting what we do and who we are including the vital role which local volunteers play in supporting the running of the Hall. He emphasised that the TVHC Committee is not intended as a vehicle for direct communication or representation to the Council or other official channels – Dunpender Community Council has that role.

The Committee members introduced themselves.

#### **Approval of last year's AGM minutes**

Proposed by Shireen Green and seconded by Stephen Roberts.

#### **Annual Report**

**Hall bookings.** The Hall has continued to host regular weekday classes such as yoga, singing and country dancing. It has also been hired by a variety of external organisations for training events and for a public enquiry. There is plenty of space in the calendar during the weekdays for other regular hires. At weekends we have occasional wedding hires and bookings for smaller family events. We agreed last year that we would keep the number of weddings in the year to a maximum of six since they occasionally create parking and noise issues.

**Murder is Easy film production.** Most people enjoyed having the film production in the village last June. The village hall was used as a base for actors and the production team. They managed the use of the village in a way that was not too disruptive for residents and made the village look lovely. The end product had a more mixed reception at Christmas. The Hall benefited from the rental income, and a further donation of £2,000 was paid to Galbraith to be spend in the community / village hall.

**Hall maintenance.** We have continued to improve the fabric of the hall over the year by having the electrical wiring properly surveyed and upgraded. This means we should be able to switch on all our kitchen appliances without blowing fuse or risking

burning down the building. The chimneys and roof have also been repaired by the Estate and we are experiencing fewer leaks. We have also renovated the floor of the outside shed which makes it a much cleaner and safer storage space. The Hall's external paintwork is still awaiting attention.

**Community meeting with Galbraith.** We hosted a community meeting on 13 October 2023 with a representative from Galbraith who manage the Estate properties to discuss the maintenance of common green areas and the Estate's longer term plans for the properties and land in the village. Most people found this reassuring and the Committee will support ongoing communication between the village and the Estate.

### **Community Engagement Group (CEG)**

As lead for the CEG, Carol Crowther gave an update on the community activities held in the last year including

- Three very successful fund-raisers - Christmas wreath-making workshops, Bridge Lunch, Tynninghame House Open Gardens tea and cakes stall
- Two popular regular fun events – Summer Fair and Burns Night
- Our regular monthly Pub Night sometimes combined with special events such as a summer BBQ, and a very interesting wine challenge
- Seasonal activities for local children at Easter and Halloween
- Seasonal apple-pressing sessions to make use of any surplus apples
- Christmas activities including a party for local residents and Christmas Eve carols in the café courtyard

This was a reminder to everyone that the Community Engagement Group is very active with lots of ideas and support for community events. Carol noted her thanks to Dave Wakefield for hosting the very successful Christmas carols in the courtyard and to Elinor Evans for playing beautifully on the harp. New members to CEG are always very welcome.

Carol reminded everyone that updated information on community events can be found on the Hall notice board and website, in the shelter and via the Village What's App group.

### **Financial Report**

Tim Harper gave a summary update on the financial position in 2023. The net profit in 2023 was a healthy £9897 (2022: £3927), an increase on last year due to increased income from Hall rentals (£19,117) including the additional income from the Agatha Christie film production and a series of successful fund-raisers (£4,122).

A copy of the year end accounts was made available to all who attended.

### **Dunpender Community Council**

Danny Wight (Tynninghame representative on the Community Council) gave an update on the key issues of relevance and importance to Tynninghame residents.

1. The Local Place Plan (LPP) for Dunpender has now been developed following an online questionnaire (the Tynninghame area had the highest response rate)

and a consultation on the draft recommendations in East Linton Community Hall. Not yet clear how influential the LPP will be on Council plans.

2. Traffic calming measures have been installed by East Lothian Council including rumble strips and a malfunctioning speed-sensitive sign. Efforts to get the Council to mend the sign are ongoing. Police are now wanting to recruit a group of Speedwatch volunteers to be trained in monitoring traffic speed.
3. A core path has now been established to Binning Wood from the centre of the village with a new gate and wall demolition funded by Dunpender Community Council. The fencing around the gas tank will be funded by TVHC. Footpaths to the Mill Race and Knowes Ford and from the village to the coast have also been established. Thanks was given to Rhys Green for his help with this and his forthcoming map of walking routes from Tynninghame which will be displayed in the bus shelter.

Danny called for new members of Dunpender Community Council which should have 12 members but only has 10 at present. Anyone interested in a role on the Community Council (wherever they live within the DCC area) should speak with him or contact the chair directly: Judith Priest [judith.priest@talk21.com](mailto:judith.priest@talk21.com)

## **New Committee appointments and retirements**

Ian thanked all the Committee members for their valuable contribution to TVHCC in 2023. In line with the constitution, one third of committee members need to stand down. This year Erica Wimbush and Shireen Green will stand down. Ian gave particular thanks to them both for their work and contributions as Committee members.

There was a unanimous vote to accept Robert Hyndman and Sophie Wild as new Committee members.

The following Committee members were proposed and agreed for 2024 – Ian Staples, Carol Crowther, John Crowther, Tim Harper, Robert Hyndman, Sophie Wild. Danny Wight will continue as the DCC representative.

Office-bearers will be chosen at the next Committee meeting on Monday 6 May, 7.30pm.

## **Any other business**

There were a number of other issues raised at the end of the meeting:

- Nigel Schofield raised the issue of continuing concerns about the Earl of Haddington's attitude to the upkeep and disuse of his village properties and land. Ian Staples proposed forming a sub-group to look into options and processes for community ownership.
- Rae Goode asked how the Mammoth film funds for the community/village hall had been used by the Committee. It was agreed to purchase new football goal posts following feedback from the community suggestion box for the use of funds donated from Mammoth Films. In addition the village hall shed floor was refurbished. Any remaining film funds have not yet been allocated.
- Carol Crowther noted that a new defibrillator cabinet has been installed at the back of the Hall and that the code number to open the cabinet is kept inside

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the cabinet. She encouraged anyone first aid trained to register as a community responder who could help in the event of an accident.

*Erica Wimbush, TVHCC Secretary, 8 April 2024*