

Ashby & Thurton Village Hall Annual Report 2015 to 2016

The Village Hall Management Committee has a membership of 11.

Co-opted Members include: Richard Taylor (Chair), Carol Powell (Vice Chair), Julie Powell (Treasurer), Dolly Howes (Booking Clerk), Stephen Read and Chris Brown.

Regular User Reps: Sarah Cook (Ashby PC), Kate Emerson (Thurton PC), Angie Broadberry (Church), Jane Mace (Pre-school), Marie Taylor (WI).

The hall and playing field is used regularly by the pre-school and church youth groups along with other organisations/activity groups on a private hire basis. The craft club and tea afternoons are still proving popular. Unfortunately, the playing field is not used sufficiently by sporting groups; grass cutting for the year cost £650.

The 100 Club – is still successful with 97 tickets sold. It pays out a prize of £35 per month with a £100 super-draw in November. The additional money raised from this and from new bookings has helped to keep the Village Hall viable. Three tickets are still available.

The Committee has made an effort to maintain the Play Area on a self-help basis. A number of members got together earlier in the year and re-barked the play area and cleared the Village Hall surrounds of weeds and debris.

In a previous year the electrical lights in the drive had to be disconnected due to a pole falling down. The lights were originally carried over the drive. It was hoped to put a cable underground but this appears to be too expensive. Some posts were requisitioned and have been erected in the drive and committee members put up some solar lights which may or may not prove entirely successful.

The Village Hall is struggling to succeed financially. The Committee is grateful to Thurton Parish Council for a £500 'Lets subsidy' and the £150 'Grass Cutting subsidy' which has kept the Village Hall afloat. The Village Hall Committee were pleased to learn Thurton Parish Council has agreed to increase the Grass cutting subsidy for year 2016-17 to £430.

The Village Hall Committee are also grateful to members of Norwich Union who repainted the Hall free of charge with donated paint.

The recent Spanish Evening proved to be a successful fund raiser. The Hall was decorated by committee members and a three course meal was cooked by a volunteer chef. Approximately 50 tickets were sold and the paying guests all seemed to enjoy the evening.

Members of the Village Hall Committee are thanked for services given to the Village Hall; especially Dolly Howes our Booking Clerk and Julie Powell our Treasurer for keeping the Hall bookings and accounts in order. We are grateful to Julie Lincoln who keeps the Hall clean and tidy and keeps us informed of maintenance tasks.

The Village Hall Committee will miss our secretary Esther Thomas who resigned in March after keeping the hall organised for many years.

Richard Taylor
Chair
April 2016

