

Great Ellingham Recreation Centre Committee.

Trustee's Report 2024/25

The facilities at the Recreation Ground and Centre are used by many varied groups and individuals. Our mission as a Charity remains as follows:

- To improve the conditions of life for the inhabitants of the area, by the provision of and maintenance of the recreation ground
- To provide and maintain a village hall for use by the inhabitants of the area for meetings, lectures and classes, and other forms of recreation and leisure-time occupation with the object of improving the conditions of life for the inhabitants.

All Trustees are volunteers, giving their time to help with the aims and objectives of the charity's constitution. Trustees of this committee come either from the various organisations that make use of the facilities (be that the village hall or recreation ground) or are nominated and voted in individuals. In many ways it's the most representative group in the village. Every Trustee is a volunteer who is here to try to keep this building and grounds as usable as possible. It's great to see all of the organisations that use the facilities growing and putting on more for the village and surrounding areas.

After a change in leadership last year we have worked hard to continue to raise funds and improve the profile of the recreation centre. For the committee 2024/25 has been a busier year than most. At the last AGM we saw a number of new faces join as Trustees which brought with it new ideas and a different energy.

As our village and community grows, being able to offer a place where people can come together and participate in a wide variety of activities is so important.

Inside:

We have the regular Wednesday **CHIT-CHAT** group which continues to be popular and they often have days out to various locations.

Monthly **Bingo** is always full and its popularity is a just reflection of the team who organise this event for those wanting to get together and hopefully win a few pounds.

Pre-School services are offered for young children weekdays except Wednesdays during the school term times.

This year we have seen the hall being better utilised and we now have regular **Fitness** and **Zumba** Classes along with **Quiz** nights, live music and private functions.

Our **Community Bar**, which opens every Friday and as required for other events has been a great success.

The decoration, furnishing, bar stock and activities all improved over the last 12 months and while its prices are comparably low, the takings are a major contributor to the funding of the services offered by the Rec Hall. Michael Alabaster has worked tirelessly as volunteer, resident bar and stock manager, events organiser and social media promoter to ensure everyone can have a great experience.

Outside:

Saturday **Car Boot Sales** continued and the weather was often a factor in how well these were attended which is also true of our newer events like **Coffee and Cars** which saw dozens of motoring enthusiasts park up on the field, admiring each other's cars while enjoying a hot drink.

Our resident user groups continued to make good use of the services which are largely subsidised to ensure costs are kept low and activities are available and affordable.

The **Cricket Club** are very active in the spring and summer months with regular matches for senior and junior players who also enjoy less formal practice and softball sessions during the week. They also keep the grass cut across the whole field to ensure as much of the area is accessible for all users.

Our resident **Breckland Astronomer Society** who meet most Fridays and have hosted regular events where everyone is welcome to view the night sky at their well-equipped Observatory

The **Pétanque Club PC51** has steadily grown in membership this year. They have been very focused on fundraising to improve their facilities which are soon to include dedicated toilets next to the playing area. They play casually at least 3 times per week where all are welcome as well as taking part in competition matches across Norfolk.

The **Scout Group** meet weekly and continues to take new members from age 4 in the Squirrels right through to Explorers age 14 to 18 .

This year's **Bonfire Night** was a great success and very well attended and supported by the community. This year we were fortunate to have generous support from a local business which contributed to a great Fireworks display.

As we continue to work towards the new village hall. Finance and funding are extremely important. Demonstrating to potential funders that we have a sound and sustainable funding basis is an important part of that process. We've been fortunate that in recent years that some support grants in addition to fundraising have helped contribute to our operating costs. Many of these are now not available and as with everything in life at the moment costs are increasing and we have to look at ensuring we operate financially responsibly.

Together all of these activities contribute crucial additional income to support the maintenance and upkeep of the recreation centre and grounds, and help us work towards a more financially independent model. The clothing, paper and bottle banks continue to provide a regular steady stream of income.

This year a major investment was made to redecorate the hall which required money and the efforts of volunteers to complete the work.

Support from the community is most welcome and vital for the running and funding of the Hall and field. The numerous events, donations from people and organisations like the Parish council and Teddy Bear festival all helped contribute to pay hall costs

All of these changes are intended to improve the facilities and make the facilities more appealing for users and hirers. Of course we are mindful of the potential new village hall and

everything considered against that. As we are here now we are a few years from a new village hall, but we hope it is coming in one form or another.

The work of the trustees and representatives of the various user groups make things happen for our community at the Great Ellingham Rec Hall and the kindness and support of everyone is most welcome.

Huge Thanks to all our Trustees

Trustees:

Chair: Fran Elliott

Secretary: Susan Alabaster

Treasurer: Lynn Griffiths

Trustee's:

1. John Brierly
2. Jean Leech
3. Sue Gent
4. Tim Roebuck
5. Vicky Rix
6. Kelly Watts
7. Ben Crick.

Great Ellingham Recreation Centre Accounts for 2024							
	2024	2023			2024	2023	
Regular Hall Hire			Bar				
51PC/Petanque	£535.13	£323.13	Bar Debit Card (Unallocated)		£0.00	£0.00	
A4C	£425.00	£0.00	Bar Stock		£2,428.64	£1,282.30	
Astro	£1,496.04	£683.31	Bar Licence		£70.00	£80.50	
Chit Chat	£1,595.50	£1,611.25	Fixtures & Fittings		£476.67	£1,702.79	
Cricket Club	£450.37	£237.18	Square Charges		£151.08	£178.80	
G.Power	£1,005.00	£550.00			£3,126.39	£3,244.39	
Marion Clarke Art	£300.00	£0.00	Hall				
Martas Dogs	£247.50	£218.25	External Mtce		£0.00	£0.00	
Parish Council	£447.50	£342.50	Internal Mtce		£7,556.49	£6,725.63	
Pilates	£325.00	£0.00	Cleaning Labour		£3,144.92	£1,280.00	
Preschool	£2,870.00	£6,558.50 *	Hall Supplies		£356.46	£335.74	
Scouts	£349.01	£147.38	Fixtures & Fittings		£18.90	£120.00	
Stardance	£281.25	£0.00			£11,076.77	£8,461.37	
Tabletop	£0.00	£406.80	Utilities				
Zumba	£552.50	£220.00	Electric		£4,541.93	£1,525.84 **	
	£10,879.80	£11,298.30	Water		£270.33	£422.21	
Ad Hoc Hall Hire			Telecomms		£327.73	£418.92	
Ad Hoc Hall Hire	£1,380.50	£1,326.32	Waste Services		£765.34	£633.88	
					£5,905.33	£3,000.85	
Regular Events			Grounds				
Bar Raffle	£441.00	£0.00	General Mtce		£500.00	£500.00	
Bingo	£4,231.57	£3,091.54	Grass Cutting		£4,350.00	£2,900.00	
Car Boot	£954.02	£1,083.21	Playground Expenses		£3,789.60	£0.00	
Cars & Crafts	£426.00	£0.00			£8,639.60	£3,400.00	
Fireworks	£4,692.56	£2,863.56	Licences				
Race Night	£1,120.00	£300.00	Music		£649.54	£552.59	
Quiz Night	£697.80	£246.31	Premises		£10.50	£0.00	
	£12,562.95	£7,584.62	TV		£159.00	£0.00	
Other Events					£819.04	£552.59	
Other Events	£1,807.83	£393.23	Events				
			Fireworks Night		£2,948.43	£1,500.00	
Other Income			Race Night		£661.21	£75.00	
Allotments	£44.64	£173.78			£3,609.64	£1,575.00	
Breckland Recycling	£776.21	£554.88	Other				
Donations	£2,651.55	£1,149.00	Insurance		£1,041.37	£1,005.68	
Heating Cards	£341.00	£0.00	Safety Inspections		£0.00	£176.79	
NCC	£115.75	£59.36	Stationary		£101.42	£0.00	
Parish Council Grant	£0.00	£1,850.00	Heating Cards		£0.00	£395.94	
Misc	£305.65	£217.90	Misc		£153.40	£270.86	
	£4,234.80	£4,004.92	Bank Charges		£178.09	£147.28	
Bar Income			Bank Transfers		£0.00	£0.00	
Cash Profit Banked	£4,661.76	£3,075.00			£1,474.28	£1,996.55	
Card Income (Bar)	£8,478.20	£104.75	Total Expenditure		£34,651.05	£22,230.75	
Card Income (Other)	£125.00	£0.00					
Bar Stock	£0.00	£1,427.10					
	£13,264.96	£4,606.85					
Total Income	£44,130.84	£29,214.24	Profit/Loss for Year		£9,479.79	£6,983.49	
Notes							
*	2023 income includes £1,422.50 for 2022						
**	2023 includes a refund from Scottish Power						
Community Bar							
Income for 2024 -	£21,045.84						
Expenditure for 2024 -	£10,610.60						
Excess Generated -	£10,435.24						
Bar Stock Holding at cost -	£1,347.01						

INDEPENDENT REVIEW OF ACCOUNTS FOR GREAT ELLINGHAM

RECREATION CENTRE 2024

I have examined the accounts of Great Ellingham Recreation Centre for the period January 2024 to December 2024. This included checking bank statements and income and expenditure during the 12 month period.

I have no reason to doubt the figures in the accounts and I am encouraged by the introduction of a more consistent tracking of the income and expenditure in the Community Bar as suggested By Lynn Griffiths in January 2024.

On checking the accounts however, I feel the electricity account needs looking at with regard to the electricity cards, as mentioned several years ago, in order that the groups using the cards are contributing the correct amount for the electricity used.

In all, Lynn has worked very hard for the Great Ellingham Recreation Centre regarding the accounts and I feel it is safe to say that the finance is in very capable hands.

Ann Reeve

Signature



Date

21-02-25

