

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

	Period start date				Period end date		
From	01	04	2021	To	31	03	2022

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name

BYRNNESS VILLAGE HALL

Other names charity is known by

Registered charity number

506856

Charity's principal address

Otterburn Green
Byrness
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE19 1TS

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Susan Chapman			Rochester Parish Council
2	Joan Oliver			
3	Caroline Richardson			
4	Peter Softley			Rochester Parish Council
5	Barbara Sunley			Craft Group
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				
11				

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year
Rochester Parish Council – Custodian Trustee	

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document	Lease and Trust Deed (Scheme) of the 13 th October 1999 and amended 3 rd August 2021
How the charity is constituted	Trust
Trustee selection methods	Two members are elected annually by the residents of Rochester with Byrness Parish, the beneficiaries. User groups are represented by <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Parish Council appoints two members - Craft Group appoints one member The Trustees may appoint not more than 2 co-opted members.

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

The hall is sufficiently insured to a surveyed re-build valuation and which provides adequate third-party liability cover.

All necessary safety tests including annual PAT testing, 5-year electrical safety tests, fire appliance maintenance are conducted and acted upon.

Policies relating to management and use of the hall continue to be developed with close cooperation with Community Action for Northumberland, ACRE's local representative, and include policies for:

Fire Risk Assessment,
Health and Safety Risk Assessment,
Equality and Diversity,
Safeguarding,
Finance,
Reserves

Hire of the hall is subject to hire agreements modelled on guidance from CAN and ACRE.

Section C

Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

The object of the charity is the provision and maintenance of a village hall for use by the inhabitants of the area of benefit without distinction of political, religious or other opinions, including use for:

- (a) meetings, lectures and classes, and
- (b) other forms of recreation and leisure-time occupation,

with the object of improving the conditions of life for the inhabitants.

The area of benefit is the parish of Rochester with Byrness.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

The trustees ensure that the hall remains available for the beneficiaries and encourages its use for hire by local people and organisations whose activities meet the object of the charity.

We also encourage use by putting on a number of fund-raising events throughout the year.

The hall is available for occasional private hire to supplement income.

Fundraising activities to support the charity's income and also other national charities take place.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

Members of the community assist trustees in small maintenance tasks, keeping the hall safe and running fundraising activities. We thank all our volunteers for their generous help in meeting our charitable objectives.

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

A combination of the impact of last year's Covid pandemic and a failing heating system left its mark, and we started the year with a significant fall in usage.

We recognised that usage of the hall needs to be improved and one of the most significant factors is the expense associated with heating during the extensive winter period. Due to its location and at an elevation of approx. 750ft, cold weather often prevents use of the hall.

A project has been started which will insulate the main hall and replace the overhead heaters with a renewable energy heat-source. Significant costs will be incurred, and funding applications have commenced. In January 2020, with support and guidance from Community Action Northumberland, we approached the National Lottery and were awarded a grant of £30,013 to upgrade the heating system and insulate the main hall. Northumberland County Council's Community Chest fund awarded £2,143 towards the project.

Covid prevented progress of the planned upgrade and during the early part of 2021 following return to normal conditions, availability and high cost of trades and materials meant we were unable to find contractors willing to take on the work and provide quotes.

An application to a potential funder needed clarification of our land registry entry which necessitated the services of a solicitor to resolve, delaying progress on the project. CAN and ACRE provided us with invaluable support during this process.

In August a contractor for the refurbishment was appointed. The start of work was delayed due to covid related illness. Several subsequent start dates were delayed, and the contractor eventually ceased trading in March 2022 before work had started.

Searching for a contractor was still in progress by end of the reporting period.

Delays associated with the refurbishment project have resulted in £32,156 being retained. These delays have been communicated to respective funders.

During the year the hall has hosted:

- Regular use by both the Craft Group and Exercise classes.
- Local parents have used the hall for children's events.
- The hall is used for regular meetings by
 - a) Rochester Byrness Parish Council
 - b) Horsley Parochial Church Council (St Francis)
 - c) The Byrness Village Hall management committee
 - d) Forestry England
- The local church of St Francis has hosted musical events using the hall as a venue.

- The hall is used by the County Council for the purpose of informing residents of developments improving access to services.
- The local Elections Officer makes use of the hall as a polling station.
- Occasional use is made of the hall for private parties.

To maintain flexibility in attracting users to the Hall, the Charity holds a Premise Licence (non-alcoholic) and a licence from the Performing Rights Society.

Section E Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

At the end of the reporting period, unrestricted funds were £31,501 which included £27,669 covid grants. Annual expenditure of the charity is £1,755 and the trustees intend to reserve £2,000 to cover current annual costs. The remainder of the covid grants will be held as designated funds for use in the refurbishment project.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

Section F Other optional information

Section G Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)	P Softley	S Chapman
Full name(s)	PETER SOFTLEY	SUSAN CHAPMAN
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)		
Date	01/10/24	



**Report to the trustees/
members of**

BYRNESS VILLAGE HALL

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31/03/2022

**Charity no
(if any)**

506856

Set out on pages

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended

**Responsibilities and
basis of report**

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**Independent
examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (other than that disclosed below *) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

** Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed:

M. Nixon

Date:

18/08/24

Name:

M. NIXON

**Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):**

DipIm (Dunelm) Minister of Religion

Address:

SOUTH GAIBHURD

TARSGI

HEXHAM

NEUBING

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

N/A.

BYRNESS VILLAGE HALL

Registered Charity No. 506856

Receipts and Payments Accounts

For the period from 01/04/21 to 31/03/22

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds 2021/22	Total funds 2020/21
Receipts					
Hall Hire	540	-	-	540	-
Fundraising - Lottery	-	-	-	-	-
Fundraising - other	-	-	-	-	-
Donations	570	-	-	570	1,150
Electricity Meters	40	-	-	40	-
Covid Grants	8,000	-	-	8,000	19,669
Hall Refurbishment Fund	-	30,013	-	30,013	2,143
Misc	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	9,150	30,013	-	39,163	22,962
Payments					
Heat & Light	334	-	-	334	158
Water Rates	149	-	-	149	103
General Admin	418	-	-	418	-
Safety Tests	-	-	-	-	-
Insurance	636	-	-	636	602
Licenses	49	-	-	49	35
Repairs & Maintenance	40	-	-	40	-
Misc	128	-	-	128	-
Petty Cash	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	1,755	-	-	1,755	898
Total receipts less payments	7,395	30,013	-	37,408	22,064
Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
Cash funds last year end	24,106	2,143	-	26,249	4,185
Cash funds this year end	31,501	32,156	-	63,656	26,249

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds 2021/22	Total funds 2020/21
Cash funds					
Bank current account at y/e	31,501	32,156	-	63,656	26,249
Receipts waiting clearing	-	-	-	-	-
Payments waiting clearing	-	-	-	-	-
Total cash funds	31,501	32,156	-	63,656	26,249