

St Bees Village Hall Management Committee

Chair's report for year 2024

The year 2024 started well for the village hall. The work to improve the insulation at the back of the hall, funded by a Lottery Community Spaces Grant was proceeding well albeit a bit behind schedule due to some unexpected roof work that needed to be done. We were fortunate to receive further funding from the Cumberland Community Investment Fund to top up this grant which allowed us to complete the planned work. In addition to this we applied for and received £4,400 from the Robin Rigg Community Fund to improve the facilities in the hall for people with disabilities that are often hidden. With this money we installed a hearing loop, LED lights throughout the building, improved signage, a large clock and chairs with arms for customers who have difficulty getting up from a chair unaided.

Unfortunately, in April the ceiling of the ladies toilets unexpectedly collapsed, leaving a gaping hole. As far as we could see the roof rafters were rotten and the recent heavy rainstorms had been the final straw. Our insurance company were not inclined to make any contribution to the repair of the roof, considering it a result of poor maintenance and the lack of any ventilation in the roof space. We were fortunate to receive a grant of approximately £10K towards the repair but our bid for £20K from the Lottery for All Fund was not successful. We were told that we could revise and resubmit our application and this was planned for the new year.

Changes in Committee members and roles

Jon Mellor stood down from his position as chair and as per the constitution a new chair, Vikki Ford Powell, was elected at the first meeting committee meeting of the year. Committee members L Rutherford, W Mellor and H Hemm also stood down from the committee. Ann Nunnerley took on the role of correspondence secretary and Ruth Edgar took on the role of minutes secretary. Ken Ford Powell remained as treasurer

New members Kath and Lyn Smith Jackson joined the committee early in the new year. Sadly ill health and other issues meant that they decided to leave in the autumn of that year. We would like to thank them for their contribution to the committee during their time as members.

Eileen Lithgow joined the Committee in the Spring of 2024 and quickly set about organising events for fund raising purposes. We would like to thank Eileen for all her hard work in this area which has helped greatly to improve the status of our bank balance. Our fundraising events included a Burns Supper, a Magic Lantern show, a Wine and Cheese event, a very amusing show to commemorate the D-Day Landings based on television show 'Hello Hello' and later in the year an afternoon tea party with a performance of our resident choir the 'Hodgetts singers'

We were also fortunate to have hosted 4 subsidised shows from the Arts out West touring programme : 2 in the spring season and 2 in the second. This is a wonderful opportunity for local people to see high quality performances at a very reasonable rate. However in 2025 the funding model of Arts out West is changing had we will only be able to have 1 show each season. Our income has not yet reached the level that we can host the shows without a subsidy.

Hires and Hall usage:

The use of the hall is gradually growing. Our fundraising events are bringing in more people and new people. We continue with the staple hires such as the Step by Step Dance Class, the Over Sixties, and the various exercise classes and children's parties, but our real challenge is to increase the number of hires that we have during the day time.

Maintenance:

A big old hall such as the village hall requires constant maintenance this year we carried out the EICR 5 Year electric inspection and made the necessary improvements, and we commissioned a drone survey to examine the state of the roof. More roof work will have to be carried out next year. As well as applying for a grant to improve the front of the hall

Masonic Lease

Just at the moment when we thought that the lease of the upstairs room was ready to be signed, we heard from the masons' solicitors that there were some problems with the lease and that the masons' solicitors needed further information. Naturally this was disappointing for us because we had been waiting for this lease to be agreed for some year.

Resolving this issue would now have to wait until the new year.

On behalf of the Chair and Committee

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Claire A Hale". The signature is written in a cursive style, with the first name "Claire" and the last name "Hale" being more prominent than the middle initial "A".

Claire Hale 27/6/25

St Bees Village Hall Management Committee

Charity 1059041

Treasurers Report for year ending 31 December 2024

The accounts for the financial year 1 January 2024 to 31 December 2024 have been reconciled using the previous treasurer's files, spreadsheets and bank statements.

The opening bank account balance on 1 January 2024 was £4377.81.

The closing bank balance on 31 December 2024 was £12689.19. Included in that figure was a liability of £4051.20 and restricted funds of £1895.20, leaving a working capital of £6742.79.

An income and expenditure breakdown on a separate sheet forms part of this report.

The accounts have been independently examined.

Funds note;

The only asset is a 50 year lease dated 19 May 2020 relating to the premises at 2 Finkle Street, St Bees, Cumbria, CA27 0BN. Rent £10 per annum.

Once the accounts have been accepted by the trustees, the figures will be submitted to the Charity Commission.

Ann Nunnerley

Treasurer

St Bees Village Hall Management Committee

Income and expenditure for the year ended 31 December 2024

Income

Hire	3692.50
Events/tickets	2448.84
Events/raffles	337.00
Grants	35041.61
Donations	3170.00
Rent	1310.00
Interest & fundraising	70.13
Misc.	42.20
Total Income	46112.28

Expenditure

Gas	1712.98
Electric	1045.18
Water	708.19
Insurance	1216.92
TV licence & Internet	1028.19
Misc	159.57
Pre Planning App	319.00
Repairs	359.00
Cleaning & refunds	67.99
Building improvements	29838.95
Maintenance	1344.93
Total Expenditure	37800.90

Cash in bank at 1 January 2024	4377.81
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Cash in bank at 31 December 2024	12689.19
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INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR YEAR ENDING 31/12/2024

CASH IN HAND AT BANK 11/12/24

INCOME

HIRE

RENT

EVENTS/TICKETS

EVENTS/RAFFLES

GRANTS

DONATIONS

INTEREST & FUNDRAISING

MISC.

TOTAL INCOME

EXPENDITURE

GAS

ELECTRIC

WATER

INSURANCE

TV & INTERNET

MISC.

PRE PAID INSURANCE, APP

REPAIRS

CLEANING & REFILLS

BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS

MAINTENANCE

TOTAL EXPENDITURE 37800 90

CASH IN HAND AT BANK 31/12/24

Accounts checked against available receipts & bank statements, reconciliations are correct & amounts agree.

K. JAMES
24/06/2025

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