

LONGWOOD VILLAGE GROUP

TRUSTEES REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Charity Registration No. 1087328

LONGWOOD VILLAGE GROUP
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LONGWOOD VILLAGE GROUP
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Reference and Administration Details

Charity Name The Longwood Village Group

Registered Charity Number 1087328

Principal Address Longwood Mechanics Hall
 129 Longwood Gate
 Longwood
 Huddersfield
 West Yorkshire
 HD3 4UU

Charity Trustees

Raymond Collier - Chair, acting Treasurer and Leader, Woodchip Project
Sue Beck-Sechi - Secretary
Sheila Hitchen
Christina Rangeley
Christine Collier - Leader, Woodchip Project
Jeff Carr
Ged Henighan
Graham Purnell
Margaret Purnell
Jeanette Scott - Publicity and Social Media
Rev Simon Crook

**Mechanics Hall
Management Team**

Derek Fairbank
Alison Fairbank

Structure, Governance and Management

The Charity is governed by its Constitution which was adopted on 15 May 2000.

At the AGM the secretary and treasurer are elected along with the hall managers and then those wishing to stand on the committee are elected from those members who are present. At the first committee meeting after the AGM the committee members elect a chair for the year.

The Longwood Village Group committee meets every month to discuss matters of general concern, to plan events and decide how funds will be spent.

Aim and Purpose

The constitution of Longwood Village Group (LVG) states that it exists to improve the condition of life for the inhabitants of Longwood and the surrounding area, without distinction of sex, race or of political, religious or other opinions, through the provision of educational activities, recreational activities and leisure time occupation in the interests of social welfare.

It also states that in furtherance of these aims it will secure the establishment of a community centre and will manage and maintain it in cooperation with any local authority or other person or body.

Finally LVG will promote such other charitable purposes as from time to time may be determined.

LONGWOOD VILLAGE GROUP
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (Continued)
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Objectives and Activities

LVG is committed to enabling as many inhabitants of Longwood and the surrounding area to participate in educational, recreational and leisure time activities that improve health, wellbeing and the quality of life.

LVG arranges and provides either alone or with other bodies and organisations, the holding of meetings, talks, classes and training courses. When planning these activities the LVG committee and trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and does everything it can to ensure that the activities it provides are affordable, accessible, appropriate and safe.

LVG holds in trust for the people of Longwood, The Longwood Mechanics Hall, and maintains, manages and improves the fabric of the building so as to provide a community centre for use by the local inhabitants.

LVG also holds in trust approximately 25 acres of local woodland (Pighill Wood) which forms the focus of a Woodland Conservation and Heritage Improvement Project (Woodchip project) and through training and volunteer work deems to protect and manage the woodland for the benefit of both wildlife and the local residents.

Achievements and Performance

The Hall reopened for activities in September 2021 as the pandemic restrictions were slowly lifted.

Longwood Village group held its first coffee morning as a simple social event, an opportunity to meet up again with friends, neighbours and colleagues that we may not have seen for some time. This coffee morning also gave us the opportunity to advertise that the postponed AGM from May 2021 would now be held on Friday 3rd September and that there would be cheese and wine after the official matters had been concluded.

The Horticultural, Handicraft and Art show would be taking place on the first Saturday in October with entries being registered at the Hall on Friday between 4.00 pm and 8.00 pm, at a cost of 50 p per entry.

November saw a really good attendance at our Christmas Stalls coffee morning, where we had stalls selling a wide variety of items including locally handcrafted goods.

December was our special Christmas coffee morning with our fabulous Santa Grotto on stage, again we had stalls selling Christmas Cards and gifts and a total of 33 children visited Santa in his grotto and received a small Christmas gift. It was good to see the Hall so full of happy, smiling faces!

Over the Christmas period an advent trail was set up by some of the congregation of St Marks Church around Longwood. Longwood Village Group participated in this event by displaying a scene of Mary and Joseph on their way to Bethlehem in the front window of the Mechanics Hall.

January and February coffee mornings were fairly quiet and sedate gatherings, I think that everyone had a really full on Christmas this year to make up for the ones that were so very restricted during the Pandemic Lockdown.

March saw us running a special coffee morning to raise money in support of the Ukrainian refugees who were having to flee from Russian Aggression in their home country. The £308 raised at the event was donated to Disasters Emergency Committee.

This year's Annual General Meeting will be held on Friday 27th May 2022 at the Mechanics Hall at 7.30 pm.

LONGWOOD VILLAGE GROUP
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (Continued)
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

The Mechanics Hall

The Mechanics Hall provides the venue for a broad selection of activities that will appeal to a cross section of the local population, below is listed the range of activities currently on offer:

Monday

10.00 am ~ 11.30 am Yoga with Jayny 07817465664
6.00 pm ~ 7.00 pm Hiit Steps with Katie 07840042203

Tuesday

10.00 am ~ 12 noon U3A Table Tennis, Main Hall (must be registered with U3A)
4.00 pm ~ 7.30 pm Academy of Dance for ages 3 to 7 with Catriona 07908138477

Wednesday

10.00 am ~ 11.00 am Sweaty Mamas for Mums and Babies with Jodie 07973423708
7.30 pm ~ 9.00 pm Table Tennis Drop in session with Lesley 07497371774

Thursday

10.00am ~ 12 noon U3A Table Tennis, Main Hall (must be registered with U3A)
10.00 am ~ 12 noon Family History Society with Margaret (Meet fortnightly)
E mail meggyorks19@outlook.com
2.00 pm ~ 4.00 pm SPACE project (Youth club for over 55s!) Main Hall 07792644490
6.00 pm ~ 7.00 pm Hiit Steps with Katie 07840042203
7.15 pm ~ 9.00 pm Yoga with Jayny 07817465664

Friday

9.45 am ~ 10.45 am Pilates with Lynne 07725997600
10.00 am ~ 12 noon Knit and Knatter with June 07714171758
2.00 pm ~ 4.00 pm Table Tennis Drop in session with Lesley

Saturday

10.00 am ~ 11.00 am Legs, Bums and Tums with Katie 07840042203

These activities take place every week except for Public Holidays but there are always vacant periods that allow for the hire of the hall for one off events and private functions. We have had several children's birthday parties, special celebration events and even funeral teas in the hall during the last 12 months. The Hall is hired out at a very competitive rate to the organisers of these activities as a means of raising capital for running costs and the upkeep and improvement of the building and the facilities.

We are always looking for new activities that would add to the attraction of our programme.

It is now over 17 years since we became involved with the Mechanics Hall and we are very appreciative of the support and help that we have been given. The hall has been transformed and the improvements continue.

We should take pride in this Hall, the fact that its owned by every resident in Longwood (16764 people). As we continue to seek funding for major refurbishment it is essential that we expand the membership of the Longwood Village Group as the more members on the list, the more this helps us to gain funding for the hall.

The Longwood Mechanics Hall Management team wish to thank all supporters and volunteers for their efforts.

The Hall is listed as Kirklees Evacuation Centre No 46, should it ever be required.
This means the Hall can be called into use at any time 24/7 in the event of a crisis.

LONGWOOD VILLAGE GROUP
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (Continued)
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Hall Licence

In 2015; we obtained the licence we need to sell Alcohol on and off the premises. Our nominated member is Raymond Collier who passed a suitable qualification for a drinks bar person. Ray has a CRB check which was due for renewal November 2020. Personal Licence Holders are due for renewal November 2024

Bar

Due to the pandemic we had to dispose of all stock for the bar. We feel that currently there is insufficient demand for us to run our own bar on the premises. The Slip Inn and the Dusty Miller would consider running a bar at any events we require

Policy and Procedures

The Policy and Procedure booklet for the hall is kept on the window ledge by the radio in the main hall. These were last reviewed in January 2022 and are due for review in 2024.

Drains

The work on the drains is guaranteed till 2023.

Boiler

This is guaranteed till 2023.

Fire Alarm

The fire alarm is tested monthly by Mr Rodney Hirst. The log sheet is kept in the Policy and Guidance booklet on the window ledge by the radio in the main hall.

Please note that this system does not link directly to the fire station.

Defibrillator

Longwood Village Group funded the purchase and installation of a Defibrillator which is attached to the front of the building and has been deployed on three occasions since its installation.

Junior Pads expire 09/23

Adult pads expire 06/23

Batteries to replace 2027

Emergency Lighting

Is tested annually by Mr Barney Harle. The log sheet is kept in the Policy and Guidance booklet on the window ledge by the radio in the main hall.

Lift

This continues to be serviced on our maintenance plan with Niche.

Ground Rent

The annual ground rent for the Hall is £4 per year.

Website

Our many thanks to Conner and Zoe of TF Productions who look after the website for us.

The Big Plan

As agreed at a meeting in 2014 this is on hold until there is any movement on the sale/development of the allotment site.

The Building fund

This fund was started to put funds on one side for any major structural repairs or possible purchase of land in the future (possibly the allotments).

LONGWOOD VILLAGE GROUP
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (Continued)
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Hall Users

Over the past year there have been a few changes.

We have lost Karate with Josh.

Knit and Knatter is now run by June Gledhill as Alison Cremona has had to step down due to family commitments.

Catriona CJ Dance has taken on an extra teacher to increase classes.

We did also have Cappello theatre dance start at the hall, but unfortunately this has not taken off.

We also welcome Tony and Janette doing Argentine tango practice.

Theatrical Productions

The Hall is used intermittently by TF Productions, Longwood Amateur Operatic Society, St Marks Players and Huddersfield Thespians for show rehearsals and performances.

Repairs and Improvements

A tremendous amount of work was done during lockdown; we tackled some very major projects at the hall.

We have now purchased the second curtain track for the stage that has yet to be fitted and an electronic photographic background holder that will be installed in the dance studio. We need to wait for finances to improve before we start on the 7year plan.

Community support fund

For our neighbourhood we were able to secure a pot of £2000 to distribute to anyone needing to help with finances. The fund has helped several people including a single parent struggling to get a school uniform for her 3 children. Longwood Grange nursing home rely on fundraising events to purchase activity equipment for residents, but covid had stopped this. With our bit of funding we have supported these local residents with a braille scrabble and an Alexa unit for group activities. We have also supported the children who use the hall with equipment for their activities.

Thank you to Zoe and the Team.

Booklet

We have had a few proof copies printed. The feedback on the proof copies has been very well received. We will hopefully get these distributed this summer. We have applied for funding to have these printed and to be distributed by Royal Mail. We are not charging for the adverts in the booklets. We hope that this is a way we can support the local businesses, and in return for them to help support us by distributing the booklets.

Seniors Open Day

People nearing retirement age were invited by local councillors to attend an event at the Briar Court Hotel. We were fortunate enough to be granted table space at this event. Zoe took a display board and flyers. We also gained some 50 names to be added to the e-newsletter circulation list.

Surplus PPI equipment.

This has been donated to the Longwood Grange Nursing Home.

Cleaning

We would like to express our sincere thanks to Viky the cleaner for the work she does at the hall.

TF Productions

Have been hit very hard with the Covid pandemic. I would like to express our sincere thanks to Zoe and Conner for their support and the help they give us at the Hall.

Zoe is a great help as assistant manager stepping in to help as required. Conner is great for that extra bit of muscle when moving things around.

CCTV

This was upgraded during lockdown with extra cameras put on the front of the porch.

The police have accessed footage on four occasions lately, Insurance companies 3 times and residents across the road on two occasions. We may not feel the benefit in the Hall, but I understand that it has saved the police many thousands of pounds from the public purse. We would at some point like to add ANPR cameras to the system as this would be very beneficial to the police.

LONGWOOD VILLAGE GROUP
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (Continued)
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Hall finances

The last couple of years have been rather concerning with us being unsure how we would cope with the Covid Pandemic. I am pleased to report that we have managed to hold our own and are in a strong position going forward, but with the sudden increase in the rate of inflation and massive energy price rises we are going to have to increase room hire and class charges.

Purchases

We have purchased the extra curtain rail for the stage and the photographic backdrop system for the dance studio. These will be fitted by Barney when available. Barney is currently preparing for their team's entry for the land speed record by pedal power in Nevada later this year. We wish them the best of luck, they are the only team entered that does not have a major sponsor behind them, funding their entry themselves.

Fundraising

Our many thanks to Nigel and Lucy for hosting a quiz night in January to boost Hall funds.

Contact

The monthly E-newsletter continues to be a great way to keep in touch with residents. For Hall users the Group chat on Whats App is proving very useful. If you would like to join either list, please let me know.

Events

As we get to the new normal. Longwood Amateurs have done a very successful Cabaret night. St Marks Players are planning on doing a show in October 2022

We also welcome Huddersfield Thespians to the hall for a couple of shows. We may have to close the Hall on the week of these shows due to the amount of preparation and show nights. We appreciate this may cause a little inconvenience to some groups having to close for a week. The Thespians organisation is 102 years old. They have been hard hit with Covid and need to recover their funds. We offer unique local affordable facilities.

Photos

During Covid, with a little time on my hands I sorted through my collection of photos/ documents relating to 'Train in the Park', Greenhead Park, a project which I oversaw.

These documents have now been lodged with the West Yorkshire Archive Service, in Huddersfield Library. We have also deposited a digital copy of the photographs we have of Longwood Mechanics Hall 2005-2022 and the information we have on the history of the Hall.

Introducing: The Seven-Year Plan

In planning ahead, we have put together a seven-year plan of continuing improvements at the hall.

We hope to be able to complete at least one project per year.

Replacing 2 windows in the ladies' toilets and one on the top landing

Replacing 2 windows in the gent's toilets

Replacing 2 windows in the Philip Taylor room

Replacing 2 windows in the library

Replacing 1 window and door in the cellar

Lifting and repointing stone flags in courtyard and paths outside the Hall

New porch and outer door at middle ground floor. Side entrance leading into the dance studio.

Full re-pointing of the Hall.

We should take pride in all our volunteers and building fund supporters for the support they give to the hall. It is that support that has made all of this possible.

The last two years have been rather difficult for everyone. We really do appreciate how this great team at the Hall have stepped up to help out at these difficult times

LONGWOOD VILLAGE GROUP
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (Continued)
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Main Hall Availability

We would like to hear from anyone interested in starting a new group or class at the hall. We will assist anyone who wishes to start a new group.

What would you like to do?

Current availability for the Main Hall is:

Monday 4pm to 7.15pm
Tuesday 12.30pm to 4.30pm
Wednesday 8am to 8pm
Thursday 4.30pm to 7.45pm
Friday 4pm to 11pm
Sunday 4pm to 11pm

Other Activities of Longwood Village Group

Woodchip Project

As we have come out of the Pandemic, the numbers of people walking through the woodland has diminished back to the pre pandemic level.

As yet we have not been able to organise the working party to rebuild the steps in the wood, that will have to be a project for 2022.

The Slaithwaite Explorer scouts doing their Duke of Edinburgh Awards have been in touch and are eager to get back to clearing the main footpath into the wood which they started on in 2021.

The dog walkers have now placed their own dog litter bin at the entrance to the wood and someone has taken on the responsibility of emptying it on a regular basis.

We have had a few trees come down during the winter gales and some work will be required to cut and stack them to keep the woodland from looking unpleasant and untidy.

The Bowling Green


As the owner of the bowling green informed us that he was increasing the rent, yet again, we decided that the amount that he was requiring was too much to pay so we put in a counter offer of an amount that we thought was a reasonable offer for this small piece of land. His reply to that offer was that he was not willing to accept it and that he had already got someone else who was going to pay him the amount he was demanding. We have not as yet seen anyone else doing any work on this land!!

Longwood Sing

The Longwood Sing Committee have written to the Chairman of Longwood Village Group to say that they would like to become a part of Longwood Village Group instead of operating as a separate entity, as this would offer them the protection of the charity status LVG has and possibly better access to grant money through the Longwood Village Groups standing in the community. Several members of the Longwood Sing Committee are also members of the Longwood Village Group Committee, so this seems like a sensible move. This matter will be placed on the Agenda for the AGM.

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

Signed on behalf of the charity



John Raymond Collier
Chairman Longwood Village Group

Date: 10 September 2022

LONGWOOD VILLAGE GROUP
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT ON THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Longwood Village Group

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31 March 2022, which are set out on pages 7 to 10.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Charities Act") and that an independent examination is needed.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to an audit and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(b) of the Charities Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act,

have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



C M Stratford FCA

Simpson Wood Limited
Chartered Accountants
Bank Chambers
Market Street
Huddersfield
HD1 2EW

Date: 10 September 2022

LONGWOOD VILLAGE GROUP
CHARITY NUMBER 1087328
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

	Unrestricted Fund 2022	Restricted Fund 2022	Total 2022	Total 2021
<u>Receipts</u>	£	£	£	£
LVG income per schedule	2,108.56	-	2,108.56	2,085.61
Mechanics Hall income per schedule	27,797.90	-	27,797.90	29,414.71
	£29,906.46	-	£29,906.46	£31,500.32
<u>Payments</u>				
LVG payments per schedule	1,836.21	-	1,836.21	5,240.40
Mechanics Hall payments per schedule	24,425.50	-	24,425.50	36,035.68
	£26,261.71	-	£26,261.71	£41,276.08
Net receipts/(payments)	3,644.75	-	3,644.75	(9,775.76)
Opening balances at bank	8,831.65	-	8,831.65	18,607.41
Closing balances at bank	£12,476.40	£-	£12,476.40	£8,831.65

LONGWOOD VILLAGE GROUP
CHARITY NUMBER 1087328
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT (Continued)
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund	31 March 2022	31 March 2021
	£	£	£	£
<u>Assets</u>				
Cash at bank and in hand	12,476.40	-	12,476.40	8,831.65
<u>Liabilities</u>				
Accountancy fees	510.00	-	510.00	1,020.00
Net Assets	<u>£11,966.40</u>	<u>£-</u>	<u>£11,966.40</u>	<u>£7,811.65</u>

LONGWOOD VILLAGE GROUP**CHARITY NUMBER 1087328****NOTES TO THE RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT****FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

	2022	2021
	£	£
<u>LVG Receipts</u>		
Coffee mornings	1,377.46	-
Grants received	-	965.00
Donations	730.86	1,120.00
Gift Aid Recovered	-	-
Bank interest	0.24	0.61
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	£2,108.56	£2,085.61
	<hr/>	<hr/>
 <u>Mechanics Hall Receipts</u>		
Hire of Hall	13,295.90	2,453.75
St Marks Players donation	-	-
Polling Station	-	-
Gift Aid recovered	-	557.84
Grants received	13,667.00	22,500.12
Donations	62.00	3,000.00
Cottage Project donations	-	-
Building Fund donations	773.00	903.00
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	£27,797.90	£29,414.71
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LONGWOOD VILLAGE GROUP**CHARITY NUMBER 1087328****NOTES TO THE RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT (Continued)****FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

	2022 £	2021 £
<u>LVG Payments</u>		
Hire of Mechanics Hall	-	3,000.00
Printing and stationery	-	176.94
Refreshments	179.20	-
AGM sundries	-	-
Repairs	120.46	478.46
Bowling Green Rent	-	620.00
Donations	308.00	965.00
Prizes	208.55	-
Accountancy	1,020.00	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	£1,836.21	£5,240.40
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<u>Mechanics Hall Payments</u>		
Annual Running Costs:		
Light and heat	4,529.97	3,529.66
Insurance	2,695.35	2,618.97
Water	216.00	506.00
Cleaning & Caretaker costs	880.13	220.16
Hall sundries	988.97	991.12
Stationery	120.26	84.02
Fire equipment maintenance	300.00	504.00
Gas maintenance	192.00	279.60
Window cleaning	140.00	140.00
Computer equipment and running costs	432.92	198.32
Bar and Kitchen Stock	314.64	1,436.16
Repairs and maintenance	4,373.32	3,373.81
Flooring repairs	-	4,856.00
Sound System	49.48	629.97
Stage Project	8,189.70	6,545.65
Cottage Project	-	4,974.97
CCTV Upgrade	-	1,177.27
Main hall Project	-	1,850.00
Brenda Hay Room Project	-	1,930.00
Dance Studio	374.94	-
Licensing	70.00	70.00
Lift servicing	-	-
<u>Funding</u>		
Various funding	100.00	100.00
<u>Other expenditure</u>		
Advertising	457.82	20.00
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	£24,425.50	£36,035.68
	<hr/>	<hr/>