

Hutton Henry & District Annual Chairman's Report 22/23

During the past year we have seen an increase in the use of the village hall. Numbers attending the monthly coffee mornings have grown month on month, which is a delight to see, and there has been a greater variety and number of evening events.

We deliver the Hutton Henry Herald to every house in the village to keep everyone informed not only about Community Association activities but also the other events which are organised by the Parish Council, Ark Therapies and Linda in The Plough. We are working closely with them to ensure that events do not clash and are spread out across the month. Our aim is for the HHH and our website to be the go-to place for everything happening in the village. Mary has taken on the role as editor of the HHH and Pauline is the key contact for our webpages.

At this meeting a year ago, I mentioned that we had financial reserves which we needed to keep in case we had any unexpected repairs etc. Later in the year because of Storm Arwen we identified several immediate repairs needed to the roof. Also, in 2020 we had an independent survey of the hall, and it was no surprise that the hall is not energy efficient. Due to COVID we were unable to act upon any of the survey recommendations. We have now established a priority list of work that needs to be carried out and it has already started. We have replaced broken slates on the roof and weatherproofed the bell tower. The second stage is to insulate the windows. We have been fortunate in receiving a £5000 grant towards the external work and when the hall is watertight once again, we will re-decorate the interior as it was last done 10 years ago.

Like everyone we are facing huge increases in our energy bills. So, it is even more important that we do everything we can to become more energy efficient. We are very grateful to John Berry for the loan of his space heater which, if you have attended any events recently, I am sure that you will agree it is very effective.

As I said at the beginning there is increased use of the hall, and I would like to thank everyone who attends events as without your support we would not be able to continue. We are always looking for suggestions to increase participation and ensure that we are organising things you want to see taking place in the village. I am delighted that we have been able to start the Hutton Henry History and Heritage Group. We held our inaugural meeting on 18th April, and meetings will take place on the first Tuesday of the month from 7 – 8pm here in the hall. The 18th of April also saw the start of a 10-week Art class run by East Durham College. This is a free course and if you are interested it is not too late to join. Just come along next Tuesday at 12 noon. Unfortunately, we did not have sufficient interest for the Fitness and Wellbeing course but again if you would be interested, please let Andrea know so she can look to starting it in the near future.

Your generosity in donating items at our monthly coffee mornings for the local foodbank is much appreciated. We will continue to have a table for you to deposit any items at each coffee morning. All donations go to the church in Wingate who in turn distribute to those in need in Wingate, Station Town, and Hutton Henry.

For our next event we are once again working with the Parish Council to celebrate the King's Coronation on Sunday 7th May. The Coronation Big Lunch is a family event with a hog roast, village treasure hunt, face painting, games and entertainment. It is free for residents of Hutton Henry and Station Town, but numbers are limited, and admission is by ticket only, available from Andrea or Lisa at the Parish Council.

The success of the Community Association depends of our team of volunteers. They do a fantastic job looking after the hall, setting up and clearing away after events, baking, serving, and making tea, cutting the lawn, delivering the Hutton Henry Herald to name just a few of the regular jobs. We are always on the look out for more volunteers especially with the Coronation event coming up so if you can spare an hour or two a month then please speak to Andrea or one of the other trustees.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Andrew for all his contribution as our treasurer. Andrew has decided now is the time for him to step down from this role. Although Andrew is stepping down as treasurer, I am pleased to say he is remaining as a trustee so we will continue to benefit from his extensive knowledge and experience of charities.

Independents Examiner's Report on Accounts

**Report to the trustees/members of Hutton Henry & District Community Association
(Registered Charity No. 1154083)**

On accounts for the year ended 31st December 2022

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 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

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 (5)(b) of the Charities Act,) and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention

My examination was carried out in accordance with general directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and 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 the 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.

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;
 - to prepare accounts which accord the accounting records and comply with the the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have 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.

Signed:



Date: 31/01/2023

Name: Natalie Currer

Relevant qualification(s) AAT Level 4 Accounting Technician

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