

TEESDALE VILLAGE HALLS CONSORTIUM

England & Wales · Charity number 1172429

Details

Other names THE VILLAGE HALLS CONSORTIUM

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2017-04-05

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address Stonedress
Hill Top
Eggleston
Barnard Castle
DL12 0AU

Phone 07814243467

Email villagehallsconsort@hotmail.co.uk

Website www.thevillagehalls.co.uk

Activities

Objects: TO PROMOTE AND IMPROVE THE EFFICIENCY AND EFFECTIVENESS OF CHARITABLE VILLAGE HALL AND AND COMMUNITY ASSOCIATIONS WITHIN THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT DISTRICT OF TEESDALE AND THE SURROUNDING AREA (THE 'AREA OF BENEFIT') IN DIRECT PURSUIT OF THEIR OBJECTS BY THE PROVISION OF ADVICE, INFORMATION, TRAINING AND SUPPORT, WITH A VIEW TO IMPROVING THE EFFICIENCY AND MANAGEMENT OF THEIR RESOURCES.

Activities: To promote and improve the efficiency and effectiveness of charitable Village Halls and Community Associations within the local area of South West Durham and the surrounding area (the ?area of benefit?) in direct pursuit of their objects by the providing of advice, information, training and support, with a view to improving the efficiency and management of their resources.

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Organisations, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Durham

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£9,937	£9,431	-	-
2023-12-31	£9,243	£9,227	-	-
2022-12-31	£6,535	£6,998	-	-
2021-12-31	£4,856	£7,610	-	-
2020-12-31	£12,690	£8,380	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
David Ian Hutchinson	Chair	2017-04-05
DAVID BAILEY		2017-04-05
MICHAEL WILLIAM BETTISON		2017-04-05

TEESDALE VILLAGE HALLS CONSORTIUM

England & Wales - Charity number 1172429

Accounts



**THE VILLAGE HALLS CONSORTIUM
Director Trustees Annual Report
YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2024**

The Village Halls Consortium is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (1172429).

Aims: To promote and improve the effectiveness of Village Hall and Community Organisations in Teesdale and the surrounding area by the provision of advice, information, training and support, with a view to improving the efficiency and management of their resources.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD AND PROFESSIONAL ADVISERS

Registered charity name: The Village Halls Consortium
Charity number: 1172429
Registered office: Mickleton Village Hall, Mickleton, Barnard Castle, Co Durham
DL12 0JY
Website: www.thevillagehalls.co.uk
Telephone: 07809314248

Trustees: David Hutchinson
Michael Bettison
David Bailey

Administration Officer: Sophie Stanwix
villagehallsconsort@hotmail.co.uk

Independent Examiner for accounts: Jayne Holmes

Bankers: National Westminster Plc

The Trustees, of (The) Village Halls Consortium for the purposes of company law, have pleasure in presenting their report and the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2024.

Chairman's Report 2025

The Village Halls Consortium (TVHC) continues to offer regular information and guidance to our member community buildings, including advice on request.

Following feedback at our AGM, we took on board what members said about our grant fund and agreed to change it from 2 grants of £250 per year to 1 grant of £500 starting from 1 January 2025. TVHC supported a total of 8 projects throughout 2024 to improve buildings and facilities. Members who have paid their annual membership fee can apply for 50% matched funding up to £500 once per year. Applications made in retrospect of a project being completed will not be considered.

The former TVHC website was dated and lacked functionality, so we decided to build a new website that was launched in February 2025. It looks as good on mobile as on desktop and we have received great feedback. I want to thank Sophie and Joe for all their hard work in putting together such a brilliant website. Mickleton Village Hall continues to find the 'Hall Booking Online' system very beneficial, making it easy for users to check availability and request bookings.

TVHC continues to be part-funded from annual memberships of £50, and the remainder is from our investment portfolio managed by Brewin Dolphin. The opening portfolio value was £157,259.74. After £8000 was withdrawn for running costs towards TVHC over the year, the closing balance was £164,885 on 31 December 2024. I want to take this opportunity to thank Jeff Ball, our Portfolio Manager, and his team for keeping us informed throughout fluctuations in the market and for all their hard work.

As TVHC's turnover is below the Charity Commission's threshold requiring professional auditing, the Committee agreed to ask an independent examiner to check our accounts. I must thank Jayne Holmes who has kindly done the accounts this year. In 2024, none of the directors claimed any expenses.

We continue to look for new trustees to join TVHC. If you are interested, please contact me or Sophie, and we would be delighted to welcome you. We usually meet in the evenings.

David Hutchinson

Chairman

Structure, Governance and Management

- The Consortium was formed in 1995.
- On 3rd January 2003 we became a registered charity (1095212).
- On 27th October 2006 the Consortium was incorporated under the Companies Act 1985 as a private company limited by guarantee (company number: 5980201) and we were issued with a new charity number (1116933).
- This decision was taken to limit the personal liability of the Trustees and give the Consortium a legal identity which positively affected our approach to risk and our ability to take advantage of the wider opportunities facing us.
- In June 2011, the title of the Consortium was changed from 'Teesdale Village Halls Consortium' to 'The Village Halls Consortium'. The reason for this was to expand our support to community buildings located outside the geographical area of Teesdale. The change of title was registered with the Charity Commission and Companies House.
- On 5th April 2017 we became a Charitable Incorporated Organisation with a new charity number (1172429) and our status with Companies House was dissolved on 28.11.17.

The Village Halls Consortium (TVHC) is composed of volunteer trustees from the management committees of community buildings who are members and representatives from interested partner organisations. Each community building pays an annual subscription fee of £50 due January/February to be a TVHC member.

Membership entitles members to:

- An individual website page on www.thevillagehalls.co.uk
- Access to a grant fund of up to £250 towards capital or revenue projects per year
- Event listings and marketing support
- 1:1 advice and support when required
- Regular information, advice and guidance updates
- General advice and guidance on relevant and up to date information
- General meetings for TVHC members when relevant
- Support with hall redevelopments
- Training opportunities

Members of The Village Halls Consortium 1st January – 31st December 2024
28 community buildings

Barningham Village Hall
Boldron Village Hall
Bowes and Gilmonby Parish Hall
Butterknowle Village Hall
Carlbeck Community Centre
Cockfield Lipscomb Hall
Copley Village Hall
Cotherstone Village Hall
Dalton and Gayles Village Hall
Eggleston Village Hall
Gainford Village Hall
Hamsterley Village Hall
Hutton Magna Village Hall
Ingleton Village Hall
Marwood Social Centre
Mickleton Village Hall
Newbiggin Village Hall
Newsham Village Hall
Ovington Village Hall
Romaldkirk Reading Rooms
Scarth Hall
School Aycliffe Community Centre
St Mary's Parish Hall
Stainton and Streatlam Village Hall
Toft Hill and Etherley Community Centre
West Auckland Memorial Hall
Whorlton Village Hall
Winston Village Hall

Related Parties

The Trustees are involved with various other local charities and businesses. Any transactions with these organisations are on an arm's length basis.

Partnership Working and Representation

TVHC has a good relationship with the Teesdale Mercury and Durham County Council.

Details of Wider Networks

TVHC is involved with several networks which are listed below:

- Durham Community Action
- Teesdale Day Clubs
- Teesdale Action Partnership (TAP)
- ACRE - Action for Communities in Rural England

Risk Management

We have reviewed all major risks facing the charity in the future and have implemented controls where necessary to ensure:

- We meet our charitable objectives
- We have sufficient reserves to cover financial liabilities
- We have sufficient policies and insurance to cover all possible liabilities

The Role of The Village Halls Consortium

The aim of TVHC as set out in our Memorandum of Association is: "To promote and improve the effectiveness of Village Hall and Community Organisations in Teesdale and the surrounding area by the provision of advice, information, training and support, with a view to improving the efficiency and management of their resources."

Objectives

TVHC has four objectives which we are constantly striving to achieve through our work and various projects that we deliver:

1. To support provision of improved and more accessible facilities and services at local community buildings to meet community needs.
2. To encourage participation in capacity building training opportunities.
3. To develop effective communication between the members and other local organisations which are interested in community development.
4. To improve the long-term viability of the community buildings as rural assets for the benefit of all residents.

We set specific key targets to achieve these objectives which are discussed at monthly

director's meetings and reviewed annually.

The Trustees have paid due regard to the Charity Commission's on public benefit in deciding upon the activities that TVHC should undertake. We have also outlined key features within our CIO Constitution document with relevant guidance.

Activities, Achievements and Performance

TVHC Website

The website provides key information about our member community buildings including contact details, facilities, hire rates, events and images.

Information, Advice and Guidance

Regular information is shared via email when necessary. Our contact database is expanding to include services to the community as well as lists of roles and contact details for each member community building in line with GDPR.

TVHC Grant Scheme

Our grant scheme provides an opportunity for each member community building to access a maximum £250 grant annually, for either capital or revenue projects, costing £500 or more. The grant application form was reviewed, and members are required to provide an up to date copy of their constitution for new applications.

In 2024, **8 projects** benefited from our grant scheme.

Community building	Application month	Project outline	Total project cost	Grant amount received
St Mary's	Sept 2023	Chair refurbishment	£2800	£250
West Auckland	Sept 2023	New chairs	£509.81	£250
Cotherstone	May 2024	Slate roof vents	£2075.50	£250
Hamsterley	May 2024	Fence replacement	£748	£250
Winston	Aug 2024	Blind replacement	£195	£97.50
Barningham	Aug 2024	New equipment	£307.56	£153.78
Romaldkirk	Aug 2024	Kitchen renovation	£3700	£250
Dalton and Gayles	Oct 2024	New water boiler	£503.98	£250
Total			£10,839.85	£1,751.28

Thank you to the following organisations for their support in 2024

Jayne Holmes for auditing the accounts

Charity Commission

Durham County Council

Durham Community Action

Joe Hutchinson (Website Design)

Mickleton Village Hall

North East Ambulance Service

Teesdale Action Partnership

Teesdale Day Clubs

Teesdale Mercury

Financial Review

Our opening portfolio value was £157,259.74 and the closing value was £164,885 on 31 December 2024. This figure includes us withdrawing £8000 to pay for the running costs of The Village Halls Consortium.

Exit Strategy Costs

The exit costs remain at £2000. This is reviewed regularly.

Investment Policy

We tend to adopt a low-risk approach to investment, and we feel that our investment procedures mirror this. Funds required to be available in the short-term are invested in short-term easy access deposits. Funds set aside to provide income to subsidise our running costs and small grants scheme are placed in a low-risk investment portfolio with Brewin Dolphin investment managers.

Accounts - CIO Charity Number 1172429

1st January to 31st December 2024

Expenses		Income	
Salary	£5940.00 ✓	Brewin Dolphin	£8000.00 ✓
Grants	£1751.28 ✓	Subscriptions	£1800.00 ✓
HMRC	£1123.98 ✓	Easy Fundraising	£37.09 ✓
Insurance	£356.28 ✓	D Hutchinson	£100.00 ✓
Website	£217.15 ✓		
AGM hire	£42.00 ✓		
Total expenses	£9430.69 ✓	Total income	£9937.09 ✓
Current account opening balance 1.1.24	£1245.56 ✓	Current account closing balance 31.12.24	£1751.96 ✓
Brewin Dolphin portfolio at 31.12.23	£157,259.74	Brewin Dolphin portfolio at 31.12.24	£164,885.00

Financial year ending 31st December 2024

Accounts audited and found to be correct with information provided

Sudex 20/6/25

JANE HOWES

1st January to 31st December 2023

Expenses		Income	
Grants	£1477.92	Subscriptions	£1100.00
Insurance	£252.11	Easy Fundraising	£143.09
Salary	£6864.00	Brewin Dolphin	£8000.00
Phone	£133.00		
Website	£100.63		
Laptop	£399.00		
Total expenses	£9226.66	Total income	£9243.09
Current account opening balance 1.1.23	£1229.13	Current account closing balance 31.12.23	£1245.56
Brewin Dolphin portfolio at 31.12.22	£154,048	Brewin Dolphin portfolio at 31.12.23	£157,259.74

Financial year ending 31st December 2023

Checked and found to be correct with the information provided

Sudex

JANE HOWES 29/9/24

Management Director Trustee Responsibilities for the Financial Statements

Charity Commission rules require the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the financial activities of The Village Halls Consortium (TVHC) during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year. In preparing those financial statements, the directors are required to:

- i. select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently.
- ii. make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- iii. state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practices have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statement.
- iv. prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that TVHC will continue to operate.

The directors are also responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of TVHC and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 1993. They are responsible for safeguarding the assets of TVHC and hence for taking steps for preventing and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Signed on behalf of the directors

D Hutchinson

David Hutchinson

Chairman

The Trustees thank everyone who has contributed in any way to the work of The Village Halls Consortium during 2024.

This report is compiled from information given by user groups, partners and members of The Village Halls Consortium.

The report is produced, assembled and printed on behalf of The Village Halls Consortium.

TEESDALE VILLAGE HALLS CONSORTIUM

England & Wales - Charity number 1172429

Accounts



**THE VILLAGE HALLS CONSORTIUM
Director Trustees Annual Report
YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023**

The Village Halls Consortium is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (1172429).

Aims: To promote and improve the effectiveness of Village Hall and Community Organisations in Teesdale and the surrounding area by the provision of advice, information, training and support, with a view to improving the efficiency and management of their resources.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD AND PROFESSIONAL ADVISERS

Registered charity name: The Village Halls Consortium
Charity number: 1172429
Registered office: Mickleton Village Hall, Mickleton, Barnard Castle, Co Durham
DL12 0JR
Website: www.thevillagehalls.co.uk
Telephone: 07809314248

TRUSTEES

David Hutchinson (Chairman)
Michael Bettison (Vice Chairman)
David Bailey

Administration Officer: Sophie Stanwix
07809314248
villagehallsconsort@hotmail.co.uk

Independent Examiner for accounts: Jayne Holmes

Bankers: National Westminster Plc

The Trustees, of (The) Village Halls Consortium for the purposes of company law, have pleasure in presenting their report and the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2023.

Chairman's Report 2024

The Village Halls Consortium continues to offer information and guidance to our member community buildings, including up to date advice when requested.

Earlier this year, we welcomed Sophie to the team as our new Admin Officer. We are currently developing a new website to create an information hub for our members, local communities and wider networks. Mickleton Village Hall continue to find the 'Hall Booking Online' system very beneficial, making it easy for users to check availability and request bookings. Events continue to be picked up by local press such as the Teesdale Mercury, Darlington & Stockton Times and The Northern Echo although please contact them directly for more prominent events which you would like them to cover.

The Consortium continues to be part funded from annual membership invoices which were sent out in January 2023 and the rest is from our investment portfolio managed by **Brewin Dolphin**. The portfolio value in January 2023 was £154,048, we pulled £8000 over the year for running costs towards TVHC and the portfolio was valued at £157,259.74 on 31 December 2023. Jeff Ball, our Portfolio Manager, has very much kept us informed throughout fluctuations within the markets and I would like to take this opportunity to thank Jeff and his team for all their hard work.

The Village Halls Consortium grant scheme is available to all our member community buildings who have paid their annual £50 membership fee. The Consortium supported a total of 6 projects throughout 2023 to improve facilities. Please can we reinforce that this is 50% matched funding up to a maximum of £250 and you can only apply for **1** project per year. All applications must be agreed at our Directors meetings prior to the project starting and Sophie will inform of the outcome by email. Please can we ask that applications are not made in retrospect as we will be unable to support these. Once the project is completed, an invoice or proof of purchase is required before the funds are released.

As TVHC's turnover is below the Charity Commission's threshold requiring professional auditing, the Committee agreed to ask an independent examiner to check our accounts. I must thank Mrs Holmes who has kindly done the accounts this year for the first time. In 2023, none of the Directors claimed any expenses.

We continue to look for new trustees to join TVHC. If you are interested, please contact me or Sophie and we would be delighted to welcome you. We normally meet evenings with the flexibility of day where possible.

David Hutchinson
Chairman

Structure, Governance and Management

- The Consortium was formed in 1995.
- On 3rd January 2003 we became a registered charity (1095212).
- On 27th October 2006 the Consortium was incorporated under the Companies Act 1985 as a private company limited by guarantee (company number: 5980201) and we were issued with a new charity number (1116933).
- This decision was taken to limit the personal liability of the Trustees and give the Consortium a legal identity which positively affected our approach to risk and our ability to take advantage of the wider opportunities facing us.
- In June 2011, the title of the Consortium was changed from 'Teesdale Village Halls Consortium' to 'The Village Halls Consortium'. The reason for this was to expand our support to community buildings located outside the geographical area of Teesdale. The change of title was registered with the Charity Commission and Companies House.
- On 5th April 2017 we became a Charitable Incorporated Organisation with a new charity number (1172429) and our status with Companies House was dissolved on 28.11.17.

The Consortium is composed of volunteer trustees from the management committees of community buildings who are members and representatives from interested partner organisations. Each community building pays an annual subscription fee of £50 due January/ February to be a member of the Consortium.

Membership entitles members to:

- An individual website page on www.thevillagehalls.co.uk which is updated on a regular basis
- Access to a grant fund of up to £250 towards one capital / revenue project per year
- Event listings and marketing support
- 1:1 advice and support when required
- Regular information, advice and guidance updates
- General advice and guidance on relevant and up to date information
- General meetings for TVHC members when relevant
- Support with hall redevelopments
- Training opportunities

Members of the Consortium 1st January – 31st December 2023

35 member community buildings

Subscription payment received

Barningham Village Hall

Boldron Village Hall

Bowes & Gilmonby Parish Hall

Butterknowle Village Hall

Carlbeck Community Centre, Lunedale

Cockfield Lipscomb Hall

Copley Village Hall

Cotherstone Village Hall

Dalton & Gayles Village Hall

Eggleston Village Hall

Gainford Village Hall

Gilling West Village Hall

Hamsterley Village Hall

Heighington Village Hall

Hutton Magna Village Hall

Ingleton Village Hall

Marwood Social Centre

Mickleton Village Hall

Middleton in Teesdale Village Hall

Newbiggin Village Hall

Newsham Village Hall

Ovington Village Hall

Randolph Community Centre,
Evenwood

Romaldkirk Reading Rooms

School Aycliffe Community Centre

St Mary's Parish Hall

Scarth Hall, Staindrop

Stainton & Streatlam Village Hall

TCR Hub

The Witham

Toft Hill & Etherley Community Centre

West Auckland Memorial Hall

Whorlton Village Hall

Winston Village Hall

Woodland Village Hall

Related Parties

The Trustees are involved with various other local charities and businesses. Any transactions with these organisations are on an arm's length basis.

Partnership Working and Representation

TVHC has a good relationship with the Teesdale Mercury and Durham County Council.

Details of Wider Networks

The Consortium is involved with several networks which are listed below:

- Durham Community Action
- Teesdale Day Clubs
- Teesdale Action Partnership (TAP)
- ACRE - Action for Communities in Rural England

Risk Management

We have reviewed all major risks facing the charity in the future and have implemented controls where necessary to ensure:

- We meet our charitable objectives
- We have sufficient reserves to cover financial liabilities
- We have sufficient policies and insurance to cover all possible liabilities

The Role of The Village Halls Consortium

The aim of The Village Halls Consortium as set out in our Memorandum of Association is: "To promote and improve the effectiveness of Village Hall and Community Organisations in Teesdale and the surrounding area by the provision of advice, information, training and support, with a view to improving the efficiency and management of their resources."

Objectives

The Consortium has four objectives which we are constantly striving to achieve through our work and various projects that we deliver:

1. To support provision of improved and more accessible facilities and services at local community buildings to meet community needs.
2. To encourage participation in capacity building training opportunities.
3. To develop effective communication between the members and other local organisations which are interested in community development.
4. To improve the long-term viability of the community buildings as rural assets for the benefit of all residents.

We set specific key targets to achieve these objectives which are discussed at monthly director's meetings and reviewed annually.

The Trustees have paid due regard to the Charity Commission's on public benefit in deciding upon the activities that The Village Halls Consortium should undertake. We have also outlined key features within our CIO Constitution document with relevant guidance.

Activities, Achievements and Performance

TVHC Website, Information, Advice and Guidance

Our website is a central information hub for members with designated login areas for members to update community building information, events and images. Information, advice and guidance can be sought from villagehallsconsort@hotmail.co.uk or our contact number on a part time basis. Our contacts database is expanding to include services to the community as well as lists of roles and contact details for each community building in line with GDPR. If there is a preference for post this is identified. Rather than a newsletter, regular information is shared via email, phone and post when necessary to keep information more current.

The TVHC Grant Scheme

Our grant scheme provides an opportunity for each member community building to access a maximum £250 grant annually. This was frozen during the Coronavirus pandemic 2019-January 2021 as community buildings had access to other funding which was made available to support closures during the pandemic and the reopening of community buildings following the pandemic. Grants applications have been welcomed since January 2022 as agreed by the Trustees in September 2021. All member communities can apply for a maximum £250 grant, for either capital or revenue projects, costing £500 or more. The grant application form was reviewed to make applying easier.

In 2023, 6 projects benefited from the grant scheme.

Community building	Application month	Project outline	Total project cost	Amount received from TVHC
Cotherstone	November 2022	Toilets	£2074.26	£250
Dalton & Gayles	January 2023	Ping pong table	£486.84	£243.42
Whorlton	January 2023	Seats	£621.30	£250
Scarth Hall	January 2023	Rodent proof ext door	£1825.00	£250
Stainton & Streatlam	April 2023	Drinks dispenser	£1028.40	£250
Hamsterley	May 2023	New cooker	£469	£234.50
Total			£6504.80	£1477.92

Thank you to the following organisations for their support in 2023

Jayne Holmes for auditing the accounts
Charity Commission
Durham County Council Councillors for Teesdale
Durham Community Action
Joe Hutchinson (Website Design)
Lightning Signs
Mickleton Village Hall
North East Ambulance Service
Teesdale Action Partnership
Teesdale Day Clubs
Teesdale Mercury

Financial Review

At the start of 2023 our portfolio value was £154,048 and in Dec 2023 the value was £157,259.74. This figure includes us withdrawing £8000 to pay for the running costs of The Village Halls Consortium.

Exit Strategy Costs

The exit costs remain at £2000. This is reviewed regularly.

Investment Policy

We tend to adopt a low risk approach to investment, and we feel that our investment procedures mirror this. Funds required to be available in the short-term are invested in short-term easy access deposits. Funds set aside to provide income to subsidise our running costs and small grants scheme are placed in a low risk investment portfolio with Brewin Dolphin investment managers.



CIO

1st January to 31st December 2023

Expenses		Income	
Grants	£1477.92	Subscriptions	£1100.00
Insurance	£252.11	Easy Fundraising	£143.09
Salary	£6864.00	Brewin Dolphin	£8000.00
Phone	£133.00		
Website	£100.63		
Laptop	£399.00		
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Brewin Dolphin portfolio at 31.12.22	£154,048	Brewin Dolphin portfolio at 31.12.23	£157,259.74

Financial year ending 31st December 2023

Checked and found to be correct with the information provided

Sudley

Townhouses 29/12/24

Management Director Trustee Responsibilities for the Financial Statements

Charity Commission rules require the Directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the financial activities of the Consortium during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year. In preparing those financial statements, the Directors are required to:

- i. select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently.
- ii. make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- iii. state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practices have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statement.
- iv. prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Consortium will continue to operate.

The Directors are also responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Consortium and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 1993. They are responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Consortium and hence for taking steps for preventing and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Signed on behalf of the Directors

D Hutchinson

David Hutchinson

Chairman

The Trustees thank everyone who has contributed in any way to the work of The Village Halls Consortium during 2023.

This report is compiled from information given by user groups, partners and members of The Village Halls Consortium.

The report is produced, assembled and printed on behalf of The Village Halls Consortium.

TEESDALE VILLAGE HALLS CONSORTIUM

England & Wales - Charity number 1172429

Accounts



THE VILLAGE HALLS CONSORTIUM COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

COMPANY REGISTRATION NO: 5980201

CIO Charity Number 1172429

**Director Trustees Report and Financial Statements
FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31st DECEMBER 2022**

THE VILLAGE HALLS CONSORTIUM COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

**TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT
YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2022**

The Village Halls Consortium is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation.

Aims: To promote and improve the effectiveness of Village Hall and Community Organisations in Teesdale and the surrounding area by the provision of advice, information, training and support.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD AND PROFESSIONAL ADVISERS

Registered charity name	The Village Halls Consortium
Charity number	1172429
Company number	5980201 (Dissolved with Charities Commission 28.11.17)
Company Secretary	Sarah Yarrow
Registered office	Mickleton Village Hall, Mickleton, Barnard Castle County Durham DL12 0JR
Website	www.thevillagehalls.co.uk
Telephone	07921994365
Trustees	David Hutchinson (Chairman) Michael Bettison (Vice Chairman) David Bailey
Projects and Marketing Officer	Sarah Yarrow Telephone: 07921994365 villagehallsconsort@hotmail.co.uk

Independent Examiner for accounts

Bankers National Westminster Plc

The Trustees, of (The) Village Halls Consortium for the purposes of company law, have pleasure in presenting their report and the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2022.

Chairman's Report 2023

The Village Halls Consortium continues to offer information, advice and guidance to our member community buildings, including up to date advice when requested. There has been a slow but positive response within the communities after Covid and although changes have been made to committees and the daily running of community buildings, we are seeing a larger number of events happening across the area.

Our website is well used and Mickleton have found the embedding of, 'Hall booking online,' a huge bonus to bookings as users can see availability as well as what is on in a clear calendar format. Please encourage your committees to take the time to have a look at your halls page and update the details and events including regular and one-off events & meetings. If you have any problems logging on, please contact Sarah who will provide login details and support. Events continue to be picked up by local press such as Teesdale Mercury, Darlington & Stockton and The Northern Echo although more prominent events which you would like cover for please contact the direct.

The Consortium continues to be part funded from annual membership invoices which were sent out in January 2022 and the rest is from our investment portfolio managed by **Brewin Dolphin**. The portfolio value in January 2022 was £184897, we pulled £5000 over the year for running costs towards TVHC and the portfolio was at £154048 at the end of December 2022. Jeff Ball our portfolio manager has very much kept us informed throughout Covid and more recently fluctuations within the markets, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank Jeff and his team for their hard work.

The Village Halls Consortium grant scheme is now open again for grants of up to £250 towards projects to improve the facilities at the village hall. The only grant payment paid out in 2022 was to Winston Village Hall towards the painting of the outside of the building. Please can we reinforce that our grants scheme is a 50% match funded grant up to £250 available from TVHC and applications have to be agreed at our Directors meetings prior to the project starting. Once agreed Sarah will contact you to confirm. Please can we ask that applications are not made in retrospect as we will be unable to support these. Once the project is completed a copy of the transaction will be needed for evidence and then funds will be released.

As TVHC turnover is well below the Charity Commission's threshold requiring professional auditing, the committee agreed to ask an independent examiner to check our accounts. I must thank Mr Herbert who has kindly done the accounts this year for the first time.

In 2022 none of the directors claimed any expenses.

We continue to be looking for new trustees, anyone who would like to join us will be more than welcome, we normally meet evenings with flexibility of day where possible.

David Hutchinson

Chairman

Structure, Governance and Management

The Consortium was formed in 1995.

We became a registered charity on 3rd January 2003 with charity number 1095212.

On 27th October 2006 the Consortium was incorporated under the Companies Act 1985 as a private company limited by guarantee, company number 5980201, we were issued with a new charity number 1116933.

This decision was taken to limit the personal liability of the trustees and give the Consortium a legal identity which will positively affect our approach to risk and our ability to take advantage of the wider opportunities facing us.

The title of the Consortium was changed in June 2011 from 'Teesdale Village Halls Consortium' to 'The Village Halls Consortium'. The reason for this was to allow membership of Halls from outside the geographical area of Teesdale.

The change of title was registered with the Charity Commission and Companies House.

On 5th April 2017 we became a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. Our new charity number 1172429 and our status with Companies House dissolved on 28.11.17.

The Consortium is composed of volunteer Trustees from the management committees of community buildings who are members and representatives from interested partner organisations. Each community hall pays an annual subscription fee of £50 due January/ February to be a member of the Consortium.

Membership entitles members to:

- Individual community buildings page to showcase each community buildings offerings which can be updated on a regular basis
- Inclusion of events on www.thevillagehalls.co.uk
- Regular information, advice and guidance updates
- General advice and guidance on relevant and up to date information
- One to one help and support when requested
- An individual website page for each community building with member usernames and logins tailored to requirements
- General meetings for TVHC members when relevant
- Assistance, where needed, in organising and running events
- Support with hall redevelopments
- Access to a small grants fund up to £250 per project, for capital and revenue projects annually per hall.
- Training opportunities

Member Halls of the Consortium 1st January – 31st December 2022
36 member community buildings:

Barningham

Boldron

Bowes

Butterknowle

Cockfield

Copley

Cotherstone

Dalton & Gayles

Eggleston

Evenwood

Gainford

Gilling West

Hamsterley

Heighington

Hutton Magna

Ingleton

Lands

Lunedale

Marwood

Mickleton

Middleton

Newsham

Newbiggin

Ovington

St Mary's Parish

Romaldkirk

School Aycliffe

Staindrop

Stainton & Streatlam

TCR Hub

Toft Hill

Whorlton

Winston

Witham

Woodland

West Auckland

Related Parties

The Trustees are involved with various other local charities and businesses. Any transactions with these organisations are on an arm's length basis.

Partnership Working and Representation.

TVHC has good relationships with local media- the Teesdale Mercury and special one off events can be included on the website or with the local newspapers. We often work with Teesdale Action Partnership, DCC and DCA.

Details of Wider Networks

The Consortium is involved and works with several networks which are listed below:

- Durham Community Action
- Teesdale Day Clubs
- Teesdale Action Partnership (TAP)
- ACRE- Action for Communities in Rural England.

Risk Management

We have reviewed all major risks facing the charity in the future and have implemented controls where necessary to ensure:

- We meet our charitable objectives.
- We have sufficient reserves to cover financial liabilities.
- We have sufficient policies and insurance to cover all possible liabilities.

The Role of The Village Halls Consortium:

Objectives

The Village Halls Consortium charitable objectives as set out in our Memorandum of Association are:

“ to promote and improve the effectiveness of Village Hall and Community Organisations in Teesdale and the surrounding area by the provision of advice, information, training and support, with a view to improving the efficiency and management of their resources.”

The Consortium has four objectives which we are constantly striving to achieve through our work and various projects that we deliver:

1. To support provision of improved and more accessible facilities and services at local community buildings to meet community needs;
2. To encourage participation in capacity building training opportunities;
3. To develop effective communication between the members and other local organisations which are interested in community development;
4. To improve the long-term viability of the community buildings as rural assets for the benefit of all residents.

We set specific key targets to achieve these objectives which are discussed at monthly director’s meetings and reviewed annually.

The Trustees have paid due regard to the Charity Commission’s on public benefit in deciding upon the activities that The Village Halls Consortium should undertake. We have outlined key features within our CIO Constitution document with relevant guidance also.

Activities, Achievements and Performance

TVHC website, Information, Advice and Guidance.

The website is a center point for key information for members with designated login areas for members to update community building information, events and images.

Information, advice and guidance can be sought from our e-mail address villagehallsconsort@hotmail.co.uk or contact number on a part time basis. Our contacts database is expanding to include services to the community as well as lists of roles and responsibilities and contact details for each community building in line with GDPR. If there is a preference for post this is identified. Rather than a newsletter, regular information is shared via e-mail, phone and post when necessary, therefore keeping information more current.

The TVHC Grant Scheme.

The Grant scheme allows each hall the opportunity to access a maximum £250 grant annually which was frozen during the Coronavirus pandemic 2019- January 2021 due to community buildings having access to funding made available to support the closure of community buildings during the pandemic and then the reopening of community buildings following the pandemic. Grants applications have been welcomed since January 2022 as agreed by the trustees in September 2021. Community buildings can apply for a maximum £250 for projects costings £500 or more. Applications can be made for either capital or revenue projects costs, all member communities can apply. The grant application form has been reviewed to make applying easier. This year we have had 1 application.

In 2022, 1 project benefited from the grant scheme.

Community Building	Application Month	Project outline	Total project cost	Amount received from TVHC
Winston	July 2022	Painting the exterior of the building	£708	£250
Total			£708	£250

Thank you to the following organisations for their support in 2022:

K Towler for auditing the accounts
Charity Commission
Durham County Council Councilors for Teesdale
Durham Rural Community Council
Joe Hutchinson (Website Design)
Lightning Signs
Mickleton Village Hall
North East Ambulance Service
Teesdale Action Partnership
Teesdale Day Clubs
Teesdale Mercury

Financial Review

At the start of 2022 our portfolio was worth £184897 and in Dec 2022 the worth was £154048 this figure includes us withdrawing £5000 to pay for the running costs of the consortium.

Exit Strategy Costs

The exit costs remains at £2K. This is reviewed regularly.

Investment Policy

We tend to adopt a low risk approach to investment, and we feel that our investment procedures mirror this. Funds required to be available in the short-term are invested in short-term easy access deposits. Funds set aside to provide income to subsidize our running costs and Village Halls small grants scheme are placed in a low risk investment portfolio with Brewin Dolphin investment managers.

Teesdale Village Halls Consortium

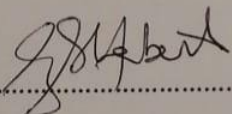
Independent Examiner's Report

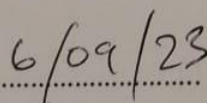
I certify that I have examined the accounts of Teesdale Village Halls Consortium as presented without carrying out an audit, but having been given all the information and explanations necessary, in my opinion they give a true and fair view of the financial affairs of Teesdale Village Halls Consortium for the twelve month period ending 31st December 2022

Funds available to the Consortium as at 31st Dec 2022

In NatWest Bank account no: 74137328	£1,229.13
Invested with Bewin Dolphin client: TEESD003	£154,048.00
Total funds available	£155,277.13

Geoff Herbert (Independent Examiner)

Signed:

Date:

Management Director Trustee Responsibilities for the Financial Statements

Charity Commission rules require the Directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the financial activities of the Consortium during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year. In preparing those financial statements, the Directors are required to:

- i) select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- ii) make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- iii) state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practices have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statement.
- iv) prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Consortium will continue to operate.

The Directors are also responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Consortium and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 1993. They are responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Consortium and hence for taking steps for preventing and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Signed on behalf of the Directors

D Hutchinson

David Hutchinson

Chairman

The Trustees thank everyone who has contributed in any way to the work of The Village Halls Consortium during 2022.

This Report is compiled from information given by user groups, partners and members of The Village Halls Consortium.

The Report is produced, assembled and printed on behalf of The Village Halls Consortium.

TVHC CIO

1st January 2022- 31st December 2022

Expenses			Income	
Hall Hire- AGM	£55		Subscriptions 2022	£1450
Salary	£6292		EasyFundraising	£85.23
Phone	£121		Brewin Dolphin	£5000
Grants	£250			
Insurance	£280			
Total expenses	£6998		Income	£6535.23
Current account opening balance 1.1.2022	£1691.90		Current account closing balance 31.12.22	£1229.13
Brewin Dolphin Portfolio at 31.12.21	£184897		Brewin Dolphin portfolio 31.12.22	£154048

TEESDALE VILLAGE HALLS CONSORTIUM

England & Wales - Charity number 1172429

Accounts



THE VILLAGE HALLS CONSORTIUM COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

COMPANY REGISTRATION NO: 5980201

CIO Charity Number 1172429

**Director Trustees Report and Financial Statements
FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31st DECEMBER 2021**

THE VILLAGE HALLS CONSORTIUM COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

**TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT
YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2021**

The Village Halls Consortium is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation.

Aims: To promote and improve the effectiveness of Village Hall and Community Organisations in Teesdale and the surrounding area by the provision of advice, information, training and support.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD AND PROFESSIONAL ADVISERS

Registered charity name	The Village Halls Consortium
Charity number	1172429
Company number	5980201 (Dissolved with Charities Commission 28.11.17)
Company Secretary	Sarah Yarrow
Registered office	Mickleton Village Hall, Mickleton, Barnard Castle County Durham DL12 0JR
Website	www.thevillagehalls.co.uk
Telephone	07921994365
Trustees	David Hutchinson (Chairman) Michael Bettison (Vice Chairman) Marion Hutchinson MBE (Treasurer) David Bailey
Projects and Marketing Officer	Sarah Yarrow Telephone: 07921994365 villagehallsconsort@hotmail.co.uk

Independent Examiner Kath Towler

Bankers National Westminster Plc

The Trustees, of (The) Village Halls Consortium for the purposes of company law, have pleasure in presenting their report and the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2021.

Chairman's Report 2022

The Village Halls Consortium continues to offer information, advice and guidance to our member community buildings, including advice on how to open up after Covid. This is going to be very different to what we are used to, please be very patient with your volunteers it will be difficult for some to be back as their priorities could have changed, what happened before Covid and what happens after Covid may be very different, some people may never get back to volunteering.

Our website continues to promote the events on your hall. Please take time to have a look at your halls page and update the details and events including regular and one-off events & meetings. If you have any problems logging on, please contact Sarah who will provide login details and support. Events continue to be picked up by local press such as Teesdale Mercury, Darlington & Stockton and The Northern Echo.

The Consortium continues to be part funded from annual membership invoices which were sent out in January 2021 and the rest is from our investment portfolio managed by **Brewin Dolphin**. The portfolio value in December 2021 was £184897. Jeff Ball our portfolio manager has very much kept us informed throughout Covid and more recently what effects the Ukraine War is having on the markets, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank Jeff and his team for their hard work in these difficult times.

The Village Halls Consortium grant scheme is now open again for grants of up to £250 towards projects to improve the facilities at the village hall. The only grant payment paid out in 2021 was to Gainford Village Hall for some Tables they had bought, this was approved before Covid came along.

A short resume and pictures of how the TVHC Grant has made a difference to the individual community buildings, would be welcome for inclusion in future Annual Reports and details can be found on the application form available from Sarah. Please can we reinforce that our grants scheme is a 50% match funded grant up to £250 available from TVHC and applications have to be agreed at our Directors meetings prior to the project starting. Once agreed Sarah will contact you to confirm. Please can we ask that applications are not made in retrospect as we will be unable to support these.

As TVHC turnover is well below the Charity Commission's threshold requiring professional auditing, the committee agreed to ask an independent examiner to check our accounts. I must thank Kath Towler who has kindly done the accounts this year for the first time.

In 2021 none of the directors claimed any expenses.

We continue to be looking for new trustees, anyone who would like to join us will be more than welcome, we normally meet evenings on the last Wednesday on the month, where possible.
David Hutchinson Chairman

Structure, Governance and Management

The Consortium was formed in 1995.

We became a registered charity on 3rd January 2003 with charity number 1095212.

On 27th October 2006 the Consortium was incorporated under the Companies Act 1985 as a private company limited by guarantee, company number 5980201, we were issued with a new charity number 1116933.

This decision was taken to limit the personal liability of the trustees and give the Consortium a legal identity which will positively affect our approach to risk and our ability to take advantage of the wider opportunities facing us.

The title of the Consortium was changed in June 2011 from 'Teesdale Village Halls Consortium' to 'The Village Halls Consortium'. The reason for this was to allow membership of Halls from outside the geographical area of Teesdale.

The change of title was registered with the Charity Commission and Companies House.

On 5th April 2017 we became a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. Our new charity number 1172429 and our status with Companies House dissolved on 28.11.17.

The Consortium is composed of volunteer Trustees from the management committees of community buildings who are members and representatives from interested partner organisations. Each community hall pays an annual subscription fee of £50 due January/ February to be a member of the Consortium.

Membership entitles members to:

- Inclusion of events on www.thevillagehalls.co.uk
- Regular information, advice and guidance updates
- General advice and guidance on relevant and up to date information
- One to one help and support when needed
- An individual website page for each hall with member usernames and logins tailored to requirements
- General meetings for TVHC members when relevant
- Assistance, where needed, in organising and running events
- Support with hall redevelopments
- Access to a small grants fund up to £250 per project, for capital and revenue projects annually per hall.
- Training opportunities

Member Halls of the Consortium 1st January – 31st December 2021

34 member community buildings:

- Barnard Castle TCR Hub
- Barnard Castle Witham Hall
- Barningham Village Hall Association
- Boldron Village Hall Association
- Bowes & Gilmonby Parish Hall
- Butterknowle Village Hall Association
- Cockfield Lipscomb Hall
- Copley Village Hall Association
- Cotherstone Village Hall Association
- Dalton and Gayles Village Hall
- Eggleston Village Hall Committee
- Evenwood & Ramshaw Community Centre (Randolph Community Centre 2016)
- Hamsterley Village Hall Association
- Heighington Village Hall
- Hutton Magna Village Hall Association

- Ingleton & District Community Association
- Lands Village Hall Association
- Lunedale Community Association
- Marwood Social Centre
- Mickleton Village Hall Association
- Montalbo Village Hall & Recreational Charity Gainford
- Newbiggin Village Hall
- Newsham Village Hall
- Ovington Village Hall Association
- Romalbkirk Reading Room
- School Aycliffe Village Hall
- Scarth Memorial Village Hall Association, Staindrop
- Stainton & Streatlam Community Association
- St Mary's Parish Hall, Barnard Castle
- Toft Hill & Etherley Community Association
- West Auckland Memorial Hall
- Whorlton Village Community Association
- Winston Village Hall Association
- Woodland Village Hall Association

Related Parties

The Trustees are involved with various other local charities and businesses. Any transactions with these organisations are on an arm's length basis.

Partnership Working and Representation.

TVHC has good relationships with local media- the Teesdale Mercury and special one off events can be included on the website or with the local newspapers. Please contact Sarah or Trevor Brookes with further information of a special event you are holding a month in advance for it to be proposed for inclusion. We often work with Teesdale Action Partnership, DCC and DCA.

Details of Wider Networks

The Consortium is involved and works with several networks which are listed below:

- County Durham Community Foundation
- Durham Community Action
- Teesdale Day Clubs
- Teesdale Action Partnership (TAP)

Risk Management

We have reviewed all major risks facing the charity in the future and have implemented controls where necessary to ensure:

- We meet our charitable objectives.
- We have sufficient reserves to cover financial liabilities.
- We have sufficient policies and insurance to cover all possible liabilities.

The Role of The Village Halls Consortium:

Objectives

The Village Halls Consortium charitable objectives as set out in our Memorandum of Association are:

“ to promote and improve the effectiveness of Village Hall and Community Organisations in Teesdale and the surrounding area by the provision of advice, information, training and support, with a view to improving the efficiency and management of their resources.”

The Consortium has four objectives which we are constantly striving to achieve through our work and various projects that we deliver:

1. To support provision of improved and more accessible facilities and services at local community buildings to meet community needs;
2. To encourage participation in capacity building training opportunities;
3. To develop effective communication between the members and other local organisations which are interested in community development;
4. To improve the long-term viability of the community buildings as rural assets for the benefit of all residents.

We set specific key targets to achieve these objectives which are discussed at monthly director’s meetings and reviewed annually.

The Trustees have paid due regard to the Charity Commission’s on public benefit in deciding upon the activities that The Village Halls Consortium should undertake. We have outlined key features within our CIO Constitution document with relevant guidance also.

Activities, Achievements and Performance

TVHC website, Information, Advice and Guidance.

The website is a center point for key information for members with designated login areas for members to update community building information, events and images.

Information, advice and guidance can be sought from our e-mail address villagehallsconsort@hotmail.co.uk or contact number on a part time basis. Our contacts database is expanding to include services to the community as well as lists of roles and responsibilities and contact details for each community building in line with GDPR. If there is a preference for post this is identified. Rather than a newsletter, regular information is shared via e-mail, phone and post when necessary, therefore keeping information more current.

Disclosure & Barring Service

Disclosure & Barring Service checks can be completed online @ www.onlinedbschecks.co.uk (Please make sure all your members are up to date).

The Village Halls Charter

An updated copy is available to all halls please contact Sarah at villagehallsconsort@hotmail.co.uk

As legislation and governance requires so much work from voluntary committees the continuation of input and researched information from TVHC is helpful to support activities in the Dales’ Village Halls and Community Centre’s.

The TVHC Grant Scheme.

The Grant scheme allows each hall the opportunity to access a maximum £250 grant annually which was frozen during the Coronavirus pandemic 2019- January 2021 due to community buildings having access to funding made available to support the closure of community buildings during the pandemic and then the reopening of community buildings following the pandemic. Grants applications will be welcomed in January 2022 as agreed by the trustees in September 2021. Community buildings can apply for a maximum £250 for projects costings £500 or more. Applications can be made for either capital or revenue projects costs, all member communities can apply. The grant application form has been reviewed in 2021 to make applying easier and so TVHC have a more coherent point of reference for applications. This year we have had 1 application.

In 2021, 1 project benefited from the grant scheme.

Community Building	Application Month	Project outline	Total project cost	Amount received from TVHC
Gainford	Feb 2020	Tilting tables	£936	£250
Total			£936	£250

Thank you to the following organisations for their support in 2021:

Dr Alan Booth for his service over previous years
Charity Commission
Durham County Council Councilors for Teesdale
Durham Rural Community Council
Joe Hutchinson (Website Design)
Lightning Signs
Mickleton Village Hall
North East Ambulance Service
Teesdale Action Partnership
Teesdale Day Clubs
Teesdale Mercury

Financial Review

At the start of 2021 our portfolio was worth £170361 and in Dec 2021 the worth was £184897 this figure includes us withdrawing £3000 to pay for the running costs of the consortium.

Exit Strategy Costs

The exit costs remains at £2K. This is reviewed regularly.

Investment Policy

We tend to adopt a low risk approach to investment, and we feel that our investment procedures mirror this. Funds required to be available in the short-term are invested in short-term easy access deposits. Funds set aside to provide income to subsidize our running costs and Village Halls small grants scheme are placed in a low risk investment portfolio with Brewin Dolphin investment managers.

TYHC CIO

1st January 2021 - 31st December 2021

Expenses			Income	
David Hutchinson-website	£84.24		Subscriptions 2021	£1350
Salary	£6864		EasyFundraising	£48.24
Phone	£132		Brewin Dolphin	£3000
Grants	£250		HMRC Furlough Scheme	£457.60
Insurance	£280			
Total expenses	£7610.24		Income	£4855.84
Current account opening balance 1.1.2021	£4446.30		Current account closing balance 31.12.21	£1691.90
Brewin Dolphin Portfolio at 31.12.20	£170361		Brewin Dolphin portfolio 31.12.21	£184897

Audited.

10/8/22

K. Tucker

Management Director Trustee Responsibilities for the Financial Statements

Charity Commission rules require the Directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the financial activities of the Consortium during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year. In preparing those financial statements, the Directors are required to:

- i) select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- ii) make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- iii) state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practices have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statement.
- iv) prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Consortium will continue to operate.

The Directors are also responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Consortium and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 1993. They are responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Consortium and hence for taking steps for preventing and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Signed on behalf of the Directors

D Hutchinson

David Hutchinson

Chairman

The Trustees thank everyone who has contributed in any way to the work of The Village Halls Consortium during 2021.

This Report is compiled from information given by user groups, partners and members of The Village Halls Consortium.

The Report is produced, assembled and printed on behalf of The Village Halls Consortium.

TEESDALE VILLAGE HALLS CONSORTIUM

England & Wales - Charity number 1172429

Accounts



THE VILLAGE HALLS CONSORTIUM COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

COMPANY REGISTRATION NO: 5980201

CIO Charity Number 1172429

Director Trustees Report and Financial Statements

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31st DECEMBER 2020**

THE VILLAGE HALLS CONSORTIUM COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

**TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT
YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2020**

The Village Halls Consortium is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation.

Registered in England and Wales with company number 1172429

**Registered Office: Mickleton Village Hall, Mickleton, Barnard Castle,
Co. Durham DL12 0JR**

Aims: To promote and improve the effectiveness of Village Hall and Community Organisations in Teesdale and the surrounding area by the provision of advice, information, training and support.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD AND PROFESSIONAL ADVISERS

Registered charity name The Village Halls Consortium
Charity number 1172429
Company number 5980201 (Dissolved with Charities Commission 28.11.17)
Company Secretary Sarah Yarrow
Registered office Mickleton Village Hall
Mickleton
Barnard Castle County
Durham DL12 0JR

Website www.thevillagehalls.co.uk

Telephone **07921994365**

Trustees David Hutchinson (Chairman)
Michael Bettison (Vice Chairman)
Marion Hutchinson MBE (Treasurer)
David Bailey

Projects and Marketing Officer Sarah Yarrow
Telephone: **07921994365**
villagehallsconsort@hotmail.co.uk

Independent Examiner Dr Alan Booth

Bankers National Westminster Plc

The Trustees, of (The) Village Halls Consortium for the purposes of company law, have pleasure in presenting their report and the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2020.

Chairman's Report 2021

The Village Halls Consortium continues to offer information, advice and guidance to our member community buildings, including advice on how to open up after Covid. This is going to be very different to what we are used to, please be very patient with your volunteers it will be difficult for some to be back as their priorities could have changed, what happened before Covid and what happens after Covid may be very different, some people may never get back to volunteering.

Our website continues to promote events now that things are starting to get back to normal. Please take time to have a look at your halls page and update the details and events including regular and one-off events. If you have any problems logging on, please contact Sarah who will provide login details and support. Events continue to be picked up by local press such as Teesdale Mercury, Darlington & Stockton and The Northern Echo.

The Consortium continues to be part funded from annual membership invoices were sent out in January 2020 and the rest is from our investment portfolio managed by **Brewin Dolphin**. The portfolio value in September 2021 was **£185,373**. Jeff Ball our portfolio manager has very much kept us informed throughout Covid, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank Jeff and his team for their hard work in these difficult times.

We took the opportunity to furlough Sarah for a period in 2020, we did this as all the community buildings were closed, so made sense to do so.

The Village Halls Consortium grant scheme was suspended throughout Covid, but we made sure all the Community Centres got access to the Government Grants that were available, most Centres receiving close to £15,000 each. There were only 2 grants awarded in 2020, one to Dalton & Gayles for help towards their Defib Unit, and one to Eggleston Village Hall for improvements to the insulation of the hall. At our directors meeting in September, we agreed to continue with the grant scheme offering £250 towards projects starting in the New Year 2022.

A short resume and pictures of how the TVHC Grant has made a difference to the individual community buildings, would be welcome for inclusion in future Annual Reports and details can be found on the application form available from Sarah. Please can we reinforce that our grants scheme is a 50% match funded grant and applications have to be agreed at our Directors meetings. Once agreed Sarah will contact you to confirm. Please can we ask that applications are not made in retrospect as we will be unable to support these.

As TVHC turnover is well below the Charity Commission's threshold requiring professional auditing, the committee agreed to ask an independent examiner to check our accounts. I must again thank Dr Alan Booth who has kindly done this for us free of charge, thus saving us a substantial sum.

In 2020 none of the directors claimed any expenses.

We continue to be looking for new trustees, anyone who would like to join us will be more than welcome, we normally meet evenings on the last Wednesday on the month, where possible.

David Hutchinson

Chairman

Structure, Governance and Management

The Consortium was formed in 1995.

We became a registered charity on 3rd January 2003 with charity number 1095212.

On 27th October 2006 the Consortium was incorporated under the Companies Act 1985 as a private company limited by guarantee, company number 5980201, we were issued with a new charity number 1116933.

This decision was taken to limit the personal liability of the trustees and give the Consortium a legal identity which will positively affect our approach to risk and our ability to take advantage of the wider opportunities facing us.

The title of the Consortium was changed in June 2011 from 'Teesdale Village Halls Consortium' to 'The Village Halls Consortium'. The reason for this was to allow membership of Halls from outside the geographical area of Teesdale.

The change of title was registered with the Charity Commission and Companies House.

On 5th April 2017 we became a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. Our new charity number 1172429 and our status with Companies House dissolved on 28.11.17.

The Consortium is composed of volunteer Trustees from the management committees of the thirty three community buildings who are members and representatives from interested partner organisations. Each community hall pays an annual subscription fee of £50 due January/ February to be a member of the Consortium.

Membership entitles members to:

- Inclusion of events on www.thevillagehalls.co.uk
- Regular Information, advice and guidance updates
- General advice and guidance on relevant and up to date information
- One to one help and support when needed
- An individual website page for each hall with member usernames and logins tailored to requirements
- General meetings for TVHC members when relevant
- Assistance, where needed, in organising and running events
- Support with hall redevelopments
- Access to a small grants fund up to £250 per project, for capital and revenue projects annually per hall.
- Training opportunities

Member Halls of the Consortium 1st January – 31st December 2020

33 member community buildings:

- Barnard Castle Witham Hall
- Barningham Village Hall Association
- Boldron Village Hall Association
- Bowes & Gilmonby Parish Hall
- Butterknowle Village Hall Association
- Cockfield Lipscomb Hall
- Copley Village Hall Association
- Cotherstone Village Hall Association
- Dalton and Gayles Village Hall
- Eggleston Village Hall Committee
- Evenwood & Ramshaw Community Centre (Randolph Community Centre 2016)
- Hamsterley Village Hall Association
- Heighington Village Hall

- Hutton Magna Village Hall Association
- Ingleton & District Community Association
- Lands Village Hall Association
- Lunedale Community Association
- Marwood Social Centre
- Mickleton Village Hall Association
- Montalbo Village Hall & Recreational Charity Gainford
- Newbiggin Village Hall
- Newsham Village Hall
- Ovington Village Hall Association
- Romaldkirk Reading Room
- Scarth Memorial Village Hall Association, Staindrop
- Stainton Grove Community Association
- Stainton & Streatlam Community Association
- St Mary's Parish Hall, Barnard Castle
- Toft Hill & Etherley Community Association
- West Auckland Memorial Hall
- Whorlton Village Community Association
- Winston Village Hall Association
- Woodland Village Hall Association

Membership updates.

We welcome Newbiggin who expressed an interest in joining TVHC and we have received relevant documentation to become a member. Associate members are welcome to join with proof of relevant documentation such as Constitution document, registered Charity number and Annual Report.

Related Parties

The Trustees are involved with various other local charities and businesses. Any transactions with these organisations are on an arm's length basis.

Partnership Working and Representation.

TVHC has good relationships with local media- the Teesdale Mercury and special one off events can be included in their events guide or paper. Please contact Sarah or Trevor Brookes with further information of a special event you are holding a month in advance for it to be proposed for inclusion. We often work with Teesdale Action Partnership and DCC.

Details of Wider Networks

The Consortium is involved and works with several networks which are listed below:

- County Durham Community Foundation
- Durham Community Action
- Teesdale Day Clubs
- Mid Tees Project Partnership
- Teesdale Action Partnership (TAP)

Risk Management

We have reviewed all major risks facing the charity in the future and have implemented controls where necessary to ensure:

- We meet our charitable objectives.
- We have sufficient reserves to cover financial liabilities.
- We have sufficient policies and insurance to cover all possible liabilities.

The Role of The Village Halls Consortium:

Objectives

The Village Halls Consortium charitable objectives as set out in our Memorandum of Association are:

“ to promote and improve the effectiveness of Village Hall and Community Organisations in Teesdale and the surrounding area by the provision of advice, information, training and support, with a view to improving the efficiency and management of their resources.”

The Consortium has four objectives which we are constantly striving to achieve through our work and various projects that we deliver:

1. To support provision of improved and more accessible facilities and services at local community buildings to meet community needs;
2. To encourage participation in capacity building training opportunities;
3. To develop effective communication between the members and other local organisations which are interested in community development;
4. To improve the long-term viability of the community buildings as rural assets for the benefit of all residents.

We set specific key targets to achieve these objectives which are discussed at monthly director’s meetings and reviewed annually.

The Trustees have paid due regard to the Charity Commission’s on public benefit in deciding upon the activities that The Village Halls Consortium should undertake. We have outlined key features within our CIO Constitution document with relevant guidance also.

Activities, Achievements and Performance

TVHC website, Information, Advice and Guidance.

The website is a center point for key information for members with designated login areas for members to update community building information, events and images.

Information, advice and guidance can be sought from our e-mail address villagehallsconsort@hotmail.co.uk or contact number on a part time basis. Our contacts database is expanding to include services to the community as well as lists of roles and responsibilities and contact details for each community building in line with GDPR. If there is a preference for post this is identified. Rather than a newsletter, regular information is shared via e-mail, phone and post when necessary, therefore keeping information more current.

Disclosure & Barring Service

Disclosure & Barring Service checks can be completed online @ www.onlinedbschecks.co.uk (Please make sure all your members are up to date).

The Village Halls Charter.

An updated copy is available to all halls please contact Sarah at villagehallsconsort@hotmail.co.uk

As legislation and governance requires so much work from voluntary committees the continuation of input and researched information from TVHC is helpful to support activities in the Dales’ Village Halls and Community Centre’s.

The TVHC Grant Scheme.

The Grant scheme allows each hall the opportunity to access a maximum £250 grant annually which was frozen during the Coronavirus pandemic 2019- 2020 due to community buildings having access to funding made available to support the closure of community buildings during the pandemic and then the reopening of community buildings following the pandemic. Grants applications will be welcomed in January 2022 as agreed by the trustees in September 2021. Community buildings can apply for a maximum £250 for projects costings £500 or more. Applications can be made for either capital or revenue projects costs, all member communities can apply. The grant application form has been reviewed in 2019 to make applying easier and so TVHC have a more coherent point of reference for applications. This year we have had 2 applications.

In 2020 2 projects benefited from the grant scheme.

Community Building	Application Month	Project outline	Total project cost	Amount received from TVHC
Eggleston	March 2020	Insulation	£1776	£250
Dalton & Gayles	April 2019	Defibrillator for Gayles telephone box	£1800	£250
Total			£3576	£500

Thank you to the following organisations for their support in 2020:

Dr Alan Booth
Charity Commission
Durham County Council Councilors for Teesdale
Durham Rural Community Council
Joe Hutchinson (Website Design)
Lightning Signs
Linton's Printers
Mickleton Village Hall
North East Ambulance Service
Teesdale Action Partnership
Teesdale Day Clubs
Teesdale Mercury

Financial Review

At the start of 2020 our portfolio was worth £168777 and as of 31st Dec 2020 it was worth £170361 and this figure includes us withdrawing £6000 to pay for the running costs of the consortium.

Exit Strategy Costs

The exit costs remains at £2K. This is reviewed regularly.

Investment Policy

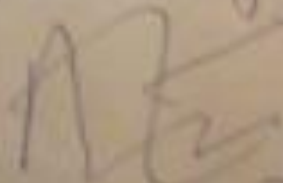
We tend to adopt a low risk approach to investment, and we feel that our investment procedures mirror this. Funds required to be available in the short-term are invested in short-term easy access deposits. Funds set aside to provide income to subsidize our running costs and Village Halls small grants scheme are placed in a low risk investment portfolio with Brewin Dolphin investment managers.

Accounts- CIO Charity Number 1172429

T.V.H.C. CIO
1st January 2020 - 31st December 2020

Expenses		Income	
David Hutchinson-website	£84.24	Subscriptions 2020	£1100
Salary	£6864	EasyFundraising	£98.83
Phone	£132	Brewin Dolphin	£6000
Grants	£500	HMRC Purlough Scheme	£5491.20
Insurance	£780		
Hall Hire	£520		
Total expenses	£8380.24	Income	£12690.03
Current account opening balance 1.1.2020	£136.51	Current account closing balance 31.12.20	£4446.30
Brewin Dolphin Portfolio at 31.12.19	£168777	Brewin Dolphin portfolio 31.12.20	£170361

I am satisfied that the above Statement is in accordance with the underlying documents & records of The T.V.H.C.



(Mr. Alan Boddy) Hon Treasurer

Management Director Trustee Responsibilities for the Financial Statements

Charity Commission rules require the Directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the financial activities of the Consortium during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year. In preparing those financial statements, the Directors are required to:

- i) select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- ii) make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- iii) state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practices have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statement.
- iv) prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Consortium will continue to operate.

The Directors are also responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Consortium and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 1993. They are responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Consortium and hence for taking steps for preventing and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Signed on behalf of the Directors

D Hutchinson

David Hutchinson

Chairman

The Trustees thank everyone who has contributed in any way to the work of The Village Halls Consortium during 2020.

This Report is compiled from information given by user groups, partners and members of The Village Halls Consortium.

The Report is produced, assembled and printed on behalf of The Village Halls Consortium.

TVHC CIO

1st January 2020- 31st December 2020

Expenses			Income	
David Hutchinson-website	£84.24		Subscriptions 2020	£1100
Salary	£6864		EasyFundraising	£98.83
Phone	£132		Brewin Dolphin	£6000
Grants	£500		HMRC Furlough Scheme	£5491.20
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Brewin Dolphin Portfolio at 31.12.19	£168777		Brewin Dolphin portfolio 31.12.20	£170361