

Austwick Parish Hall Annual Report for the Year Ended 31st December 2021

Austwick Parish Hall, Main Street, Austwick, Lancaster, North Yorkshire, LA2 8BN is constituted by a Deed of Trust dated 19th August 1936, and registered with the Charity Commission (charity no. 523477).

The Trustees during the year were :

Chair : Dr Karen Lindsey Smith

Treasurer : Robert Glen

Secretary : Angela Jupp

Other Trustees : Dr Peter Russell (Deputy Chair), Sue Dewhirst, Merna McVeigh, Catherine Nicholls, Rosie Pettiford, Molly Preston, Alec Rigby, Joanna Robinson, Ian Shaw, Barbara Tibbatts, Elise Wright, Kevin Hale (appointed 11 October 2021), Sarah Wiltshire (resigned 12 April 2021), Heather Jemson (resigned 12 April 2021).

The charitable objectives of the Trustees are to maintain Austwick Parish Hall for the inhabitants of the parish of Austwick and its immediate vicinity, for community activities and for the use by local groups for social, recreational and educational purposes.

The Parish Hall's accounts for the year ended 31 December 2021 have been completed and independently reviewed. Copies of statements of (a) the financial assets (balance sheet) and (b) summary cash income receipts and expenditure payments are included in this report. The accounts do not include the value of the Hall itself (currently valued for insurance purposes at a rebuilding cost of £705,000) as the property asset which is held in trust does not form part of the day-to-day financial activities of the charity.

The first half of 2021 was a continuation of 2020 in the sense that Covid-19 restrictions were in place for much of the time, and the Hall was not available for hire until May. Bookings then gradually restarted in the second half of 2021, although still not yet returning to pre-pandemic levels. The financial reserves of the Parish Hall at the end of 2021 remain strong and were significantly enhanced during the year, principally as a result of government grant support. The following were the main features of the year's finances :

- Overall, income from all sources increased from £16,845 in 2020 to £31,533 in 2021. The increase in 2021 came largely from a higher level of government Covid-19 grants, and the Open Gardens / Grand Draw fundraising event.

- Hall hirings increased to £2,690 in 2021 from £2,099 in 2020 (although still low compared with the pre-pandemic level of £5,661 in 2019). Although there was no income from hirings until late spring, a block booking from North Yorkshire Local Education Authority, two weddings and a stream of regular hires in the second half of the year generated the increased figure for 2021.
- Fundraising and event income recovered substantially from the previous year's low point. The Street Market in May had to be cancelled for the second year running, but an event combining an Open Gardens Day, and the Grand Draw in its usual Street Market format, generated income of £5,881. After costs, the profit was £5,249, of which £2,624 (50%) was allocated to the Parish Hall, with the other 50% allocated to the Austwick Playing Fields Association. Other fundraising of note was a "Reopening" coffee morning in May and a "Freshers Fair" in August, which produced incomes of £119 and £317 respectively. Last but not least was the Plant Stall which generated takings of £520 in 2021 (2020 : £428).
- Compensation for the problems created by Covid-19 was available in the form of government Covid-19 business grants, and the available grants claimed in 2021 totalled £17,302 (2020 : £11,334). Unsurprisingly this was a substantial proportion of the total income for the year.
- As in 2020, some costs for the Parish Hall were lower than usual. Business rates remained suspended as part of government Covid-19 business assistance. Utility costs were higher than in 2021 largely as a result of the timing of oil tank-fills, with three in 2021 and only two in 2020.
- For the first few months of the year, the Hall was effectively mothballed with the opportunity to catch up with some smaller-scale maintenance using caretaking time. Repairs and maintenance costs were lower than in 2020, but the previous year had included a large external wall repointing job. There was a "one-off" 2021 cost in repairs and maintenance of £852 for replacing a window in the ladies' toilets, a minor roof repair for £106 and a £200 asbestos survey (none found).
- The expenses of fundraising of £3,207 are principally attributable to the payment of £2,475 from the proceeds of the Open Gardens / Grand Draw event to the Playing Fields Association. This is in accordance with the 50:50 informal agreement with the PFA to split proceeds of the annual Street Market (or in this case its substitute event). The Street Market HSBC bank account in the Parish Hall's name (closing balance £3,093), is included in the year-end cash reserves of the Hall, although as shown in the attached statement of financial assets, 50% of this (£1,546) is attributable to the PFA.

- The net effect in 2021 of a second year of government-supported income and lower-than-usual costs was a comfortable cash surplus of £17,985 (2020 : £3,726) which increased the financial resources of the Parish Hall from £43,664 at the start of the year to £61,650 by the close. Those resources are held principally as bank balances at HSBC, Skipton BS and National Savings and provide an unusually strong financial start point for 2022. As with 2020 the focus was on conserving financial resources until the long-term prospects for returning to normality become clearer.

At the start of 2022, the Hall was open for hire albeit on the reduced tariff introduced back in 2020 to enable small groups to use the large hall with social distancing. A further Covid-19 government grant was applied for and received in January 2022 via Craven DC for £2,667 which provides an artificially good start to the year's finances. The prospects for a return of the popular and important fundraising event, the Austwick Street Market and Cuckoo Festival, at the start of June 2022 look extremely positive, and current expectations are for a return to pre-pandemic patterns of use and income generation over the course of 2022.

The Trustees would like to extend their thanks to all those in and around Austwick who volunteered their time, energies and other resources for the benefit of the charity during the year.

Robert Glen,

Treasurer, Austwick Parish Hall.

AUSTWICK PARISH HALL COUNCIL
Registered Charity No. 523477
STATEMENT OF CASH ASSETS
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2021

	2021 £	2020 £	2019 £
Balances as at 1 January	43,664.69	39,938.38	33,209.76
Surplus / (Deficit) for the year	17,985.58	3,726.31	6,728.62
Balances as at 31 December	<u>61,650.27</u>	<u>43,664.69</u>	<u>39,938.38</u>

Represented by:

Refundable deposit held by Filmbank	150.00	150.00	150.00
Petty cash	812.19	407.17	929.77
Bank balances at HSBC, Settle (current accounts)	36382.18	18,922.33	14,875.28
National Savings Investment Account	3,911.32	3,883.36	3,852.54
Skipton Building Society	20,394.58	20,301.83	20,130.79
Total	<u>61,650.27</u>	<u>43,664.69</u>	<u>39,938.38</u>
Unbalanced difference	0.00	0.00	0.00

Note : At 31 December 2021, the balances at HSBC above included an amount of **£1,546.62** attributable to Austwick Playing Fields Association, representing a 50% share of £3,093.24 funds in the Parish Hall HSBC "Street Market Account".

Completed by :

Robert Glen
Treasurer, Austwick Parish Hall

Dated : January 2022

6TH FEBRUARY

I have examined these accounts and the books, records, bank statements and petty cash of the Austwick Parish Hall Council and I am satisfied that they represent a correct statement of the Council's affairs as at the date stated.

Andrew Lewis

Independent Examiner

Dated: January 2022

6TH FEBRUARY

AUSTWICK PARISH HALL COUNCIL
Registered Charity No. 523477
SUMMARY RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

	To 31 December 2021		To 31 December 2020	
	£	£	£	£
<u>Income</u>				
Hall and equipment hire	2,690.00		2,099.50	
Fundraising and event income	9,631.30		1,198.50	
Rental income	640.08		640.08	
Reimbursement of costs	1,134.88		1,121.79	
Covid-19 Government grants	17,302.00		11,334.00	
Bank Interest received	120.71		201.86	
Donations	15.00		250.17	
		<u>31,533.97</u>		<u>16,845.90</u>
<u>Expenditure</u>				
Business Rates and Insurance	930.07		934.61	
Utilities	3,133.68		2,344.71	
Repairs, maintenance and caretaking	6,111.61		8,980.15	
Expenses of fundraising and events	3,207.15		713.28	
Miscellaneous	165.88		146.84	
		<u>13,548.39</u>		<u>13,119.59</u>
<u>Net surplus / (deficit)</u>		<u><u>17,985.58</u></u>		<u><u>3,726.31</u></u>