

## **Chairman's Report – March 2024**

This year since our last AGM has been dominated by our new pavilion development which started in October 2023 and is due to be completed (hopefully) by May this year.

To recap, during Covid we as a club were successful in receiving support of over £28,000 which the committee decided to reinvest via Cath Longley (Good Fundraising Co) and Architect 1b (Darren Bailey) to improve our facilities. Cath was successful in raising more monies than promised and work commenced in October (as per Biffa & Wren stipulations) by Concept Design and Build Builders of Wakefield, who were successful in the tender process.

Like all building projects we have come across many challenges and have often had to 'cut our cloth' accordingly but with the team on site – Ray Liversedge, Phil Johnson (a fantastic and very welcomed re-addition), Keith Johnson, Gareth & Bryn Pelzer & Bob Webb, we are moving towards the conclusion of majorly improving our facility.

This Summer I expect to be able to have an opening event of the new, shiny 'Denby Grange Community Hub' to add to the 'new' carpark and entrance from Highfield Crescent. We often wonder why we do certain things but in years to come I think I for one will know the answer.

The rest of the year has been 'business as usual' – the Bowls first team winning promotion back to the top Mirfield League once more, the Cricket club have moved 'back' to the Huddersfield League and continue with their successful partnership with Ossett CC (loaning younger players) and are both financially sound. Although we haven't a Denby Grange Junior Football team, our facilities have been used/enjoyed by Ossett Albion U12's Girls as well as several Horbury Town Junior boys teams.

The year ahead will see even more challenges as we move towards managing our facilities as well as welcoming new users/potential members to use our improved space. We need to ensure we're self-sufficient as soon as possible and have a support network in place to ensure we maximise sensible and sustainable usage. I would welcome any input and thoughts on how we can achieve this, I only know some of the questions, certainly not all the answers! For now let's get this thing done – Build it and they will come!!!

Thanks everyone

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andy Turner', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**Andy Turner**  
**Chairman**