

Hampsthwaite Memorial Hall Management Committee

Annual General Meeting – Monday 25th April 2019 - Chairman's Report

I now complete my fourth full year as Chair of the Memorial Hall Management Committee. Should we set a maximum number – of 5 perhaps? We still do not have representation from every village group, we continue to be short of Public Members and attendance at meetings is variable – do we need a change of leadership?

Hampsthwaite Memorial Hall belongs to the whole community : we extend a welcome to new residents and invite people to come forward and offer their services and support.

I am pleased to report another very successful year but I will repeat once more that this doesn't just happen: it is the result of constant monitoring by the Management Committee and continued support from the organisations they represent. It is the result of the often unsung efforts of the Principal Officers: Vice Chair (*Phil*), Booking Secretary (*Mel*) and Treasurer (*Peter*). And its continued success depends on new volunteers stepping up when the need arises.

Thanks are due to *John* for continuing with the essential work he does associated with event preparation and I wish also to record our thanks to *Debbie* for the time she was with us as our new Secretary. Sadly her personal commitments have meant she has been unable to continue, with the result that we are once more in need of a volunteer for this post..

Hall improvements have continued. We have replaced our ageing dishwasher and the Players have funded two motorised stage back-cloths. A Fire Alarm system has been installed and we have contracted with LogicCare to have all systems regularly monitored and maintained. The Memorial Hall is now well resourced to cater for weddings and other significant occasions with additional catering sundries, a marquee-type lining for the main hall ceiling and a 'star-cloth' curtain to provide a stage back drop for bands etc.

Our contracts with '*Janina's Professional Housekeeping Service*' for twice weekly cleaning (Friday and Monday mornings), and '*Cathedral Hygiene Services*' to cover our legal requirements continue satisfactorily. We continue also to provide an operating base for the Community PayBack Team whose assistance we are able to call on for general clearing, cleaning and painting around the hall, as part of their commitment to community work in the village.

To help us fund some of these improvements we have registered the Memorial Hall as a '*Local Good Cause*' with the Harrogate '*Local Lotto*'. Take up has been slow however and will have to increase if we are to be allowed to continue – of those trailblazer few who have given support thus far several have been winners!

And for the future - the survey to seek views of how we may further improve the hall has been repeated. Top 3 items this year are: Refurbish Toilets, Establish a Youth Club, Extend Back Stage Area. In addition, there has been some comment in meetings that we may soon have to refit the kitchen if we are maintain our high standards. We would envisage such a development would include the establishment of proper bar facilities in the Servery area (e.g. glasses storage, flash-cooler, beer pumps etc.). We now await a response from HBC to confirm their promises of funding from the new housing developments.

Geoff Howard – 20th March 2019

- The Local Lotto: Search for Memorial Hall on the HBC Lottery site, click on the link posted on our village web site or go directly from here - <https://www.thelocalotto.co.uk/support/hampsthwaite-memorial-hall>
- All Minutes and Agendas for the Memorial Hall are now posted on the village website at <http://www.hampsthwaite.org.uk/memorialhall/687> and all Policy documents at <http://www.hampsthwaite.org.uk/memorialhall/548.a>
- A history of the Memorial Hall, with illustrations can be view on the village website at <http://www.hampsthwaite.org.uk/villagehistory/392>
- Details of the Energy Efficiency Refurbishment project can be viewed on the village website at <http://www.hampsthwaite.org.uk/memorialhall/584>