

**STAMFORDHAM PLAYING FIELD AND VILLAGE HALL**  
(Charity Number 502613)



**TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>st</sup> MARCH 2021**

## **STAMFORDHAM PLAYING FIELD AND VILLAGE HALL**

### **REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATION DETAILS OF THE CHARITY, TRUSTEES AND ADVISERS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2021**

#### **Life Presidents**

Gordon Smith  
Bill Telfer

#### **Trustees and Committee Members**

C. Hancock	Acting Chairman and St Mary's Church
S. Noble	Co-opted Secretary
E. Trevelyan	Treasurer and Widdrington Trust
G. Blissett	Co-opted Assistant Treasurer
L. Boylan	Elected
D. Bushby	Stamfordham Parish Council
L. Carr	Co-opted
A. Dias	Co-opted
S. Goodfellow	Mothers and Toddlers
R. Gledson	Stamfordham Cricket Club
T. Henderson	Elected
R. Hunter	Stamfordham Football Club
S. Hutt	Elected
D. Linney	Stamfordham W.I.
P. Nichols	Uniting Church
S. Parker	Crafty Reivers
S. Reed	Karate
C. Reynolds	Elected
P. Reynolds	Stamfordham Carpet Bowls Club
J. Robinson	Young Farmers

#### **Bankers**

Lloyds Bank PLC, Blackheath, London, BX1 1LT  
National Westminster Bank Plc, Gosforth, Newcastle upon Tyne NE3 1ET  
Virgin Money PLC, Jubilee House Gosforth, Newcastle upon Tyne NE3 4PL

#### **Auditor**

IR Clements FCA, Jesmond, Newcastle upon Tyne NE2 4JR

## **STAMFORDHAM PLAYING FIELD AND VILLAGE HALL**

Grange Road,  
Stamfordham NE18 0PF  
www.stamfordhamvillagehall.co.uk

Charity Registration No. 502613

### **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>st</sup> MARCH 2020**

#### **Aims and Organisation**

The Charity is regulated by a scheme dated 2<sup>nd</sup>. November, 1983, and sealed by the Charity Commission for England and Wales. The objective of the Trust is the provision and maintenance of a Playing Field and Village Hall for the use of the inhabitants of the Parish of Stamfordham and its neighbourhood.

#### **Trustees**

Details of the Trustees are shown in the Administrative details on page 2.

#### **Review of the Year and Activities**

The Committee met on 4 occasions during the full financial year, including twice using the internet Zoom facility, and dealt with the ongoing management of the Village Hall and Playing Field. The AGM was held in July 2020 in person at the village hall adhering to Covid 19 safety rules. It was attended by 12 Trustees and 4 members of the public.

Any urgent business was dealt with by the management sub-committee which consists of the Chairman, Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer and Secretary. Trustees have been kept informed via e mail with some decisions and expenditure being approved by email votes.

Four trustees formed a Covid 19 Safety sub-committee to manage the implementation of Covid guidelines for safe use of the buildings and outside spaces.

This financial year has been very different to all other years because of the Covid 19 Pandemic which has seen community buildings close their doors to lettings and gatherings that would normally provide income. The Village Hall, MUGA, Pavilion and Playing Field are dependent upon the income from lettings, fund raising and covenant giving. The bookings for larger private functions were cancelled, including the Cyclone, which was a huge financial loss for the charity.

The regular user groups of the hall ceased to meet, although on occasions, when Covid Rules were relaxed, Karate, Bowls, Pop Up Cafe and Loaf Shack managed a few sessions only and Living North met once. A Covid Controlled jumble sale happened on two consecutive Saturdays with the remaining items being collected and sold for cash by weight.

The MUGA has been used on a daily basis by individuals and by Walking Netball and Football when outside sport has been allowed. It is used by Stamfordham Primary School for games every Wednesday during term time.

The voluntary donations from the Walking Netball affords the services of Lewis Miller who is keeping the MUGA and the perimeter of the hall weed, leaf and moss free.

With the help of the Government's Furlough Scheme we have been able to continue to employ our cleaner on varying reduced hours over the last 12 months.

The hall kitchen has been used to provide weekly hot meals for those who were isolating, elderly or alone and coordinated by St Mary's church and volunteers. The West Room has been used as a distribution centre for Care Packages to those requiring support.

## **STAMFORDHAM PLAYING FIELD AND VILLAGE HALL**

### **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>st</sup> MARCH 2021 (continued)**

#### **Review of the Year Cont .....**

The money from our successful application to the National Lottery for £27,000 to refurbish the main hall toilets was received in August 2020. The refurbishment was completed during the Autumn of 2020 to a high standard by BB Kitchens and Bathrooms and has improved the facilities in the hall dramatically.

Another successful application for a £7,500 grant from the Sir James Knott Fund was specifically for replacing the hall boiler, the central heating system and the remote control unit. The work was completed in May 2020 and has proved very efficient.

A bid to the William Leech foundation for replacing some essential kitchen equipment was also successful. We received £2,500 which was added to by the Stamfordham and Matfen Community Fund, the National Lottery Community Fund and other smaller donations. These funds enabled the purchase and installation of a catering cooker and catering dishwasher.

After many hours of negotiation Gill Blissett (assistant treasurer) has finally secured planning permission from NCC for replacing the rotten windows in the West Room and along the south side of the hall. Thanks go to Gill and others for pursuing this time consuming task. A grant of £1,000 from the Rowbotham Trust has been awarded towards the cost of the replacement windows which are due for completion in 2021.

Several tranches of money from the NCC Covid Support grants have been essential to offset the loss of income due to closure and minimal use of both the village hall and pavilion.

The playing field and the pavilion was used by the Stamfordham Cricket Club for a much shortened season during the summer of 2020. Although restricted by Covid Rules for outside sport, they managed a successful season of cricket. The continued care and maintenance of the grounds and the pavilion by volunteers of the SCC is very much appreciated. Special thanks again go to Ian Harkness and to Jack Schofield who spend many hours looking after the grounds and equipment on a voluntary basis. The cricket club organised the interior redecoration of the pavilion after a pipe leak which has smartened the interior. The remaining named bricks that were sold to raise funds for the construction of the pavilion have now been positioned.

During the year Ian Harkness stepped down after many years as the representative for Stamfordham Cricket Club and Richie Gledson has stepped in to the position. Thanks to Richie for recently working on plans for the installation of an oil tank and the associated secure housing adjacent to the pavilion. Once completed it will make fueling the generator much safer and easier. His enthusiasm for the care and maintenance of the playing field and pavilion is of great benefit to the charity.

There are also plans to build a barbeque area which will also be of benefit to the community, sports clubs and the charity.

Sadly, the football team were not able to raise a team this year and we hope that this can be rectified in the future.

#### **Financial**

Due to the Coronavirus outbreak receipts from Lettings Members Clubs was down to £965 compared with £2,645 in the previous year. Likewise, Lettings Other Users was down to £912 from £9,478 last year. Covenants and gift aid tax amounted to £5,379 about the same as last year of £ 5,499

As mentioned in the Review of the Year there were a number of grants awarded during the financial year for specific projects: National Lottery Community Fund £27,000 (£26,479.95 has been spent to date), Sir James Knott Trust £7,500, William Leech Charitable Trust £2,500, National Lottery Local Connections Fund £762, Rowbotham Trust £1,000, Stamfordham & Matfen Local Churches Community Fund £500.

## **STAMFORDHAM PLAYING FIELD AND VILLAGE HALL**

### **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>st</sup> MARCH 2021 (continued)**

#### **Financial Cont.....**

Covid Support Grants of £38,784 were received from Northumberland County Council towards the loss of income during the lockdowns of which £7,573 was spent on the upkeep of the pavilion and playing field.

There was a surplus for the year of £25,992 compared to a surplus of £2,616 for the previous year of which £12,500 has been set aside to replace the windows in the West Room and south side of the main hall and £4,000 to repay loans before 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023.

At the year end there were bank balances of £51,933. There are outstanding loans of £4,000 repayable by 31 December 2023.

#### **Summary**

The Stamfordham Playing Field & Village Hall charity continues to be supported by a core of hard working trustees who are determined to maintain and improve the buildings and grounds for the use and enjoyment of the local community and those of the wider area. One or two have been mentioned individually here, but the Committee's thanks go to all who have had some input, whether as a Trustee, a volunteer or as a hall user.

We all look forward to being able to open the hall facilities and use the pavilion and grounds for lettings as soon as Covid 19 is under control.

.....  
C Hancock  
Acting Chairman  
22<sup>nd</sup> April 2021

.....  
E Trevelyan  
Treasurer