



CRATHES PUBLIC HALL TRUST [SCIO]

SCOTTISH CHARITY NO SC043007

Trustees ANNUAL REPORT for 1st APRIL 2017 TO 31st MARCH 2018

Aims

The purposes of Crathes Public Hall Trust [SCIO] are to manage and maintain a community hall for the benefit of the inhabitants of the village of Crathes and its environs without distinction of age, gender, sexual orientation or political, religious and other opinions, in order to improve the conditions of life within the community:

- by providing facilities for recreational, cultural, and community-centred activities, and
- by sponsoring community events within the hall to advance education, citizenship and community development.

Governance

The Trust is managed by a Board of twelve trustees who undertake the duty of caretaker voluntarily on a rota basis. There is a convener, secretary, treasurer and maintenance supervisor. The trust has also co-opted a Redevelopment Supervisor to concentrate on the work involved in the future of the hall, which is showing its age and becoming unsuitable for the 21st century. The trust receive and are very grateful for donations in kind from Macintosh Plant Hire courtesy of a trustee. This includes filling potholes and drainage work outside the hall.

Activities

In order to carry out the aims of the trust the hall is used on a regular basis by several recreational groups and is also hired out to private individuals and the local school for P.E. and used by the community council and local authority for meetings.

In the year 17/18 we had 54 private hires.

We have fulfilled our charitable purpose in support of the local community. We have covered our costs, maintained an operating reserve, and made a small profit to support our redevelopment plans.

Regular activities include Footstars (childrens football 30 participants), Boxercise/TRX(8), indoor cycling in winter(10), Balance Bikes(15), Morris Men(15), Table Tennis(10) Martial Arts (6) School PE (35).

From January 2018, 30 Scottish Country dancers used the hall while Banchory Town Hall was being refurbished.

On the first Saturday of every month the Board run the Crathes Fly, a coffee morning/book and plant exchange for local residents. About 20-30 people attend every month; some are long-term residents and others are young families newly moved into the area. There are also 2 or 3 performances a year of plays by small touring theatre companies in collaboration with NEAT (North East Arts Touring).

A regular 'pub 'night including music was started in April 2017 but discontinued later in the year due to lack of support. A similar event held monthly at neighbouring Drumoak hall was felt to fulfill this function.

Hall Redevelopment Project

Through many meetings and negotiations with the local authority the Redevelopment Supervisor applied for and succeeded in attracting LEADER funding for a feasibility study to determine whether the hall should be refurbished or rebuilt. He also managed a tendering process for the feasibility study and an architect was appointed to work with the Board on this project. The overall budget for the feasibility study is £19,450 and the grant from LEADER will be £13,272. The contract with the architect started on 1st February 2018. As well as the architect asking the board what they wanted for the future of the hall, the hall users were also asked what they are looking for in a new or refurbished hall. The overwhelming response was 'storage'.

Other activity and achievements in the year

Grants were applied for and successfully awarded by Mid Hill wind farm for acoustic panels and new heaters for the hall.

The board agreed to increase the amount paid fortnightly from £70 to £100 to the cleaners in order to achieve a higher standard of cleanliness in the hall, specifically vacuuming the hall and window frame cleaning.

The previous rule about having no bouncy castles was overturned on the understanding that hirers ensure that the operator is properly insured and it is clear in our terms and conditions.

A baby changing mat with shelf and a new outdoor noticeboard with glass doors were purchased from hall funds.

A hall banner and leaflets with the hall programme were purchased and used at the fundraising dog show in June to raise awareness about the hall.

On the 7 October one of the hall trustees organized and hosted a communal meal using foraged and donated food. Tattie soup and apple crumble were served to 25 people at one long table and raised over £100 for hall funds.

A new judo class started in November 2017 with 25 participants.

In November a successful ceilidh was held in the hall to raise funds and provide a community event. There was also a sold out family Hogmanay Ceilidh.





As well as receiving successful awards from the Mid Hill wind farm it was agreed to apply elsewhere for money for new chairs as the old chairs in the hall were becoming dangerous with one or two breaking.

An ongoing agenda item has been the potential purchase and location of a defibrillator at the hall. At a cost of £1700 work is continuing to find a successful source of funding.

Issues and challenges

The trustees were involved in a lot of work answering angry emails after the hall was used by the Conservative Party on 29 April 2017 for a visit from Theresa May. The Board were also unhappy about this being booked without their knowledge as a 'childrens party' on the advice of Special Branch.

Outcomes

The hall impacts on the health and wellbeing of the local community through recreational and cultural events. The impact of hall events is also in bringing together members of the community, including some who are more isolated.

At the end of the year in March the hall finished on a high with a very successful concert featuring the Old Blind Dogs, attracting over 100 people and raising £879 for the redevelopment project.

A short video of the concert can be viewed on the Crathes Hall Facebook page.

<https://www.facebook.com/Cratheshall/>

FINANCE

The financial accounts for the year are attached.

In January 2108 the board agreed to change the reserves policy to £8000 for one year and to move £12,000 into a new account for the redevelopment project. A new linked account was set up. We were also fortunate to have in attendance at many of our meetings a fundraiser, paid for by one of our trustees. He attended meetings to become familiar with the business of the board but was unable to carry out any fundraising until the result of the feasibility study becomes clear.

Crathes Hall accounts – year to 31-3-18

Statement of Receipts and Payments for year ended 31st March 2018

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Grants £	Redevelopment Fund £	TOTAL 2018 £	TOTAL 2017 £
RECEIPTS						
Cultural Activities		696			696	1785
Recreational Activities		6243			6243	3358
Private Hire		3552			3552	4097
Council/School Hire		1034			1034	1014
Grants	2		7918		7918	350
Donations					0	54
Fundraising				4854	4854	1284
	1	11525	7918	4854	24297	11942



PAYMENTS

Cost for Hall Events		394		1762	2156	1977
Hire deposit returns		669			669	680
Utilities	3	3631			3631	3426
Maintenance and Cleaning		2956			2956	2027
Consumables		619			619	719
NEAT membership		75			75	
Certification and Licences					0	100
Hall Redevelopment Project			7518		7518	
Independent Examiner		35			35	307
Other						
	1	8379	7518	1762	17659	9236
Net receipts		3146	400	3092	6638	2706

Statement of Balances as at 31st March 2018

BANKS	Current £	Redevelopment £	2018 £	2017 £
Balance 1 st April 2017	15952		15952	13246.59
Receipts	23400	897	24297	11941.54
Expenditure	-17659		-17659	-9235.92
Transfer	-12000	12000	0	0
Balance 31 st March 2018	9693	12897	22590	15952.21

Notes to the accounts for year to 31st March 2018

1. FUNDS	Unrestricted Funds £	Grants £	Redevelopment Fund £	TOTAL 2017 £	TOTAL 2016 £
Balance 1st April 2017	10535	-400	5817	15952	13246.59
Income	11525	7918	4854	24297	11941.54
Expenditure	-8379	-7518	-1762	-17659	-9235.92
Transfers	-3988		3988	0	0
Balance 31 st March 2018	9693	0	12897	22590	15952.21

2. RESTRICTED GRANTS RECEIVED IN YEAR



Purpose of Grant	Provider	Amount £
Table Tennis Table	Midhill Windfarm	400
Acoustics	Midhill Windfarm	3300
Heaters	Midhill Windfarm	4218
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		7918
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3. UTILITIES

Two years of insurance are included in this year's accounts.
Approximately £2500 is due for electricity at the year end.

