

Kirkby Malzeard Mechanics Institute Village Hall

Annual Report to the Parish Council 2016

The year 2015/16 has yet again been a successful one for the M.I. Village Hall. The building has been used by over 29 organisations and has had over 15 individual/ group bookings. Unfortunately individual Institute memberships have fallen in recent a years, which is disappointing. Perhaps there are some constitutional issues which we need some public / members debate upon?

Activities have ranged from Arts and Crafts, Keep Fit, Junior Football, Public meetings, seasonal celebrations, organised clubs, Creative Drama and Theatre, Quiz nights, Cinema shows, Wine Tastings, Music events, coffee mornings, Charity fund raising events, Horticultural events, plus a host of individual hiring for social use, weddings, funeral teas and family gatherings. New users include the Tuesday Lunch Club, Asperger support group and the junior football winter training. The building is used most days of the week and weekends, the quietest period being the months of July and August. Thanks goes to the events subcommittee for all of their hard work.

The Snooker and Billiards section have had another successful season with the club continuing to field 2 teams in the local league and cup competitions, both of the teams and individuals, winning silverware over the last few years.

This year's AGM reported a sound financial base. We have a new Bookings secretary and Treasurer as Joan Fraser stepped down from this position after many faithful years' service in the role, she does however continue to be an active member of the Trustees committee. The new Bookings Secretary and Treasurer is Liz Woolston. Gerry Mass continues as Secretary to the Trustees and Clive Robson and John Collins are sharing the Chairman's role. New Trustees (Annabel Andrew & Mike Smith) were welcomed on to the committee. A small sub group of the committee has developed a new bookings procedure and structure which is now available online via the Kirkby Malzeard area guide (<http://kirkbymalzeardareaguide.btck.co.uk/MechanicsInstitute>)

The MIVH Facebook page continues to gain support and we attempt to promote our activities via this application when relevant.

On the management side, we, the Trustees are proud custodians of a substantial building and although not a listed building it is a reminder of our local heritage and the historical importance that the Mechanics Institute's once stood for. Today the building continues to be a hub for the community and primarily as a Village Hall for all to use socially and for educational enhancement.

As Trustees we attempt to maintain the fabric of the building within available resources.

It is a building of 4 parts:-

(1) The original building which includes Snooker room, Reading Room entrance Hall and Surgery room circa 1936

(2) The Main Hall and Stage areas

(3) The side annexe and Kitchen extension.

(4) The outside storage facility.

Inevitably, older buildings with newer extensions are always a problem due to the nature of the building materials used. We have in recent years brought the windows and roof lights up to date and last year removed the building off the flat roof which joined the front building to the main hall. We also were granted planning permission for the provision of a new outside storage provision which was badly needed to accommodate stage flats and other group equipment.

This year we made ambitious plans to extend and improve the bar facilities by extending into the Reading room. Finance for these plans is still developing as we will struggle to implement them without extra funding. It is recognised that this is now becoming a social hub and funding source for the appropriate functions that we host. These plans remain in place and are ongoing; however our main priority is to maintain what we still have.

We have certain areas of water ingress, mainly in the 'old' building and these needs to be dealt with before developing anything further. The Snooker room is well maintained but is badly in need of repair and redecoration. The same applies to the main Hall and stage areas so these are our priority for 2016.

Quotes are currently being sought for the water ingress maintenance work. Further quotes will then be sought for the redecoration work. These will be a substantial cost for the main hall and stage refurbishments.

In conclusion and on behalf of the Trustees Committee and all of this community facility's users I would like to thank the Parish Council for their on-going support.