All Saints Parish Hall Scratby

Report to the Parish Council Annual Parish Meeting April 1st 2019

The trustees are pleased to report another excellent year for the venue.

Booking continue to grow year on year and these do provide a very useful additional income stream for the charity, many booking are now repeat ones from previous years and enquiries for hire come from quite a wide geographical area. The winter months are the busiest time for children’s parties and we do have a number of weekends where we are booked with two parties on a Saturday and one on a Sunday.

Our regular groups continue to thrive and we know of at least two who now operate a waiting list for membership as numbers each week have reached a level that their committees feel is correct for the group to function well.

One group in particular has seen quite a rise in numbers owing to one of the old established Ormesby Groups deciding to close.

The Friday café and market are now well established and numbers for both have held up during the winter months. Starting tomorrow the Tuesday 2nd April a new venture opens providing a lunch time carvery meal, with all profits going towards the cost of the replacement beach steps at Scratby, again all staffed by volunteers and we wish them well.

Finances-We are very lucky in having such a competent and qualified treasurer in John Gingell who does a superb job in ensuring the finances of the hall work and advises the trustees on the management of the funds in both terms of reserves but also in planning for future works. The trustees and the treasurer are working to ensure that sufficient funds will be available in the future for maintenance of the building. We are now into the 7th year since opening and being a public building it does receive a lot of “traffic” and we have an ongoing programme of replacement and refurbishment of the building.

Our maintenance manager attends on a regular basis to ensure that all equipment etc function correctly and ensures that as far as possible we keep the hall to the very high standard that is was built to.

As an example of maintenance is that all of the suspended ceiling tiles in the building have been clipped in correctly to prevent movement of the tiles. This was undertaken by a specialist company earlier this year.

With the number of groups and users growing we will be looking at various options to increase the storage space of the building. The Friday Café is now totally contained in the container to the north and this has freed up more space. All this work costs money and as trustees we will always ensure that there are sufficient funds in reserves if there should be a need.

Our broadband has been upgraded to fibre and I am pleased to report that we have probably one the best line speeds in the area.

To conclude another good year for the hall and the charity my thanks to all who work to make this such a superb venue, many people give a large amount of time as volunteers on a regular basis.

Sylvia does a really good job often under somewhat trying circumstances. As trustees we have tried to avoid making lots of rules and regulations very much hoping that we can appeal to peoples good nature and sense of community and respect for others to all work together for the success of this superb venue.

Geoff Freeman Chair Trustees