

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING April 2012 to March 2013

CARDRONA VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE

Tuesday 13th August 2013 in the Village Hall

Committee:	Brian McCrow	Chair
	Roddy MacKenzie	Treasurer
	Brian Taylor	Secretary
	Dominic Finn	Marketing/Bookings
	Nina Sloan	Bookings

Report from the Chair

A successful Village Hall Many thanks are given to the Village Hall committee members for the time they have given especially with the extra workload associated with the Cardrona Village Association (CVA) formation. I'd also like to thank Kim Johnson for keeping the hall so clean. Dominic Finn brought Nina Sloan up to speed on managing the bookings. Dominic designed and printed the many leaflets we have produced over the year for events and for the CVA activities. Brian Taylor picked up the Secretary job very well. Roddy MacKenzie has selected, implemented and managed the new on-line finance system so we have accurate and up to date financial information at our fingertips. He was very busy with setting up the residents who donated monies to the CVA.

I'd like to record my thanks to Peter Sellar who stepped down for personal reasons and to Becky Hall, who moved house to Peebles.

We have continued to provide a good service to the residents with a number of different clubs and organisations using the hall. We have had a shortfall of £757.58 on the operating budget due to an increase in charges from utilities and charges for adding proximity lighting in the toilets plus repairs to broken windows. We had to dip into the Reserves as a result. We took a decision to increase hall charges to cover such extra charges in the future.

We ran a successful Summer Games attended by most of the youth from the village and their parents although we had to postpone by a few weeks because of the wet ground and poor weather. My thanks go to the many parents who helped out on the day with the sports, the BBQ and the teas and cakes, to the Innerleithen Pipe Band for the use of their PA system, to the Toddlers Group for face painting, to the Macdonald Golf club for preparing the pitch and putt area, to Linda from the Village Shop for the drinks and ice cream and to the local

organisations who provided excellent prizes for the raffle. We made about £250 net profit at the events.

The Xmas lights switch on was well attended with mulled wine and mince pies provided by the Macdonald Hotel and ably served up by staff from the Hotel. Again we had a good raffle with excellent prizes from local organisations. Many thanks to Santa (with an unusual accent) who made a surprise and very welcome visit to switch on the Xmas lights. The Peebles Junior Silver Band played well. Many thanks to Nigel Rutherford and Dominic Finn for setting up the tree and the lights although the wind brought the tree down on 2 occasions – many thanks to the various residents for getting it back up. Glendinning also provided a machine to lift the tree into position.

The Scouting Group now meets on 3 evenings a week and is in such demand that they could do more if they had more Leaders. In their Scouting Week they created new flower beds at the Hall and the borders now look much better. They carried out a massive litter pick along the Shared Pathway

The Babies and Toddlers group is well supported although their numbers dropped off thus they could only hold one meeting per week. I'm glad to say that they have now increased their numbers and are back up to 2 sessions per week. There have been lots of birthday parties held in the hall.

InChorus on the Green This was repeated by popular demand and organised by Peter Sellar and Brian Taylor, who raised £275 for the Hall funds.

Queen's Diamond Jubilee This was organised by Neil Cummings and Brian McCrow, where we planted a rowan tree (donated by Floors Garden Centre) to commemorate the Jubilee. It was planted by the Lord Lieutenant for Tweeddale, Sir David Younger and local residents and witnessed by about 20 residents including some very interested youngsters.

Shared Pathway from Peebles to Innerleithen. Now open Peebles to Innerleithen via Cardrona with the new bridge in place. It is very well used. We are trying to get budget to install benches along the route.

Cardrona Broadband It has been successfully implemented in Cardrona with over 80% of the village having adopted it – this is the highest uptake anywhere for BT. New users are being added as their previous contracts have ended.

Pump n'Jump track The track has been improved by Scott Gourlay to make it even more enjoyable. Scott will also run classes for people wanting both exercise and as an introduction to mountain biking.

Cardrona Village Association Our committee merged with the 2 remaining members of the Interim Residents Committee (IRC) – Nigel Rutherford and Ailsa McMillan to form the Interim Cardona Village Association. There have been many meetings, discussions and papers produced on the options open to us. We are now well on our way to the inaugural meeting of the CVA and the dissolution of the CVHC. We will be obtaining the agreement of the residents at the AGM to the dissolution of the CVHC and to the transfer of its assets to the CVA. Provided we have agreement we have to obtain consent from OSCR (a process which can take up to 42 days) after which we will formally dissolve the CVHC and transfer the assets to the CVA at the inaugural meeting of the CVA on 25th October 2013.

We have had a great response from a large number of volunteers who have assisted on the collection of donations –£5,600 This is in addition to the many residents who have given us very good feedback on the proposals. We are in the final stages of the lawyer's report on the Factor Act implications. This report will advise us if we have to appoint a Factor under the terms of the new Factor Act or if we can continue as we are with the CVA running the maintenance without a Factor. Robert England has helped tremendously on the constitution and OSCR approval. A village meeting on 25th June endorsed the constitution. The Eildon Housing Group has been very supportive of our activities and has agreed to financially support the maintenance costs in the future. Stephen Lamb under Nigel's watchful eye is maintaining the Green and Hall Borders very well

Issues

Vandalism We have had some cases of mindless vandalism e.g. tree damage, noticeboard set on fire, playpark incidents by teenagers, graffiti on the Pump n'Jump hut. These have all been dealt with and hopefully lessons learned.

Dog fouling There are still a number of dog walkers who will not pick up after their dogs thereby causing a nuisance to the rest of the village and especially on the Golf Course. Dog owners should keep their dogs on a leash within the village and ensure that their dogs don't poop on the Village Green. I would ask residents to report offenders to SBC or Community Beat Officer who can impose fines.

Cardrona Village Shop The Village Shop still needs our ongoing support as customers. Linda has sought and responded to residents' comments and changed her produce accordingly. The Shared Pathway and increased number of golfers has been a boost to her business.

Cardrona Future Developments

Ice House The Ice House by Mains Farm Steading is a listed structure, which we'd like to feature with an interpretive sign for the expected new walkers and cyclists using the Pathway.

Unfortunately, it is also a great climbing area for youngsters and is showing many signs of wear and damage. We'd like to raise funds to protect the structure from future damage and re-instate the loose stones.

Youth Club When we asked the High School pupils for feedback on their needs/desires for an after school club the response was positive initially but then evaporated. Hence we felt that we couldn't put in a lottery bid to create extra storage in the Hall for extra leisure equipment so this project has been dropped.

Village Hall support

We can't run our events without the help of our volunteers so please volunteer for a task however small. We hold a small number of committee meetings during the year to arrange events and the rest of the time we tend to use email so it's not an onerous time commitment throughout the rest of the year.

Prepared by Brian McCrow, Chair

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