

AGM 22 August 2019  
Chair's report

I have pleasure in presenting my report for the year ending 31st December 2018.

The Village Hall has continued to fulfil the aims stated in its constitution - improving the conditions of life for the residents of Swanland. Bookings continued at a high level. All of our long term hirers remain with us and continue to provide the bulk of our income, approximately two thirds of the total and provide a range of services for the community. Short term bookings and one-off events remain at a good level and are varied in nature, including conferences, cultural events and the ever popular children's parties. We only had one wedding this year, but would hope for future growth in this area.

We are keeping our hire charges under review raising them slightly each year to keep pace with rising costs, but keeping them reasonable to attract and retain bookings.

Our maintenance and improvement programme continues. Major jobs in 2018 included refurbishment of the main hall floor and the replacement of existing lights with LEDs. Although the latter was a large investment we hope to recoup a significant amount of money through lower electricity bills.

The 'Beast from the East' caused some damage, which resulted in unexpected expenditure, but otherwise repairs and maintenance spending was as planned.

The finances of the Hall continue to be satisfactory overall. Total incoming resources in 2018 were £43926 (2017 £46459). Total resources expended in 2018 were £44948 (2017 £46654), resulting in a loss of £1022 for the year.

The Trustees' policy on reserves is that monetary reserves shall be maintained equivalent to 6 months average routine revenue expenditure. At the financial year-end cash balances amounted to £60,009 (2017: £61,408) which significantly exceeded the amount required by the policy.

### **CIO (Charitable incorporated Organisation)**

We continued to make progress in our bid to become a CIO, gaining permission from the Charities commission to adopt a new constitution and become a new Charity, retaining the name Swanland Village Hall. [The Charity was established on 11th Oct 2018 and became active on 30th June 2019]. CIO status only became available in 2013 and its intention is to mitigate personal liability for trustees - in effect 'limiting liability'. It provides the benefits of incorporation to registered charities without the complications and dual reporting duties of becoming a company. To my knowledge only one other Village Hall in the East Riding has made the move, although a topic on the ERA of RCB conference agenda this September is "Why change to a CIO?" so I expect others will now begin the process.

### **Board of Trustees**

In 2018 the only change to the Board of trustees was the resignation of Pauline Calam.

### **Working Parties**

During the year we have continued to hold regular working parties at which Trustees and other volunteers carry out care and maintenance jobs on the Hall. We are very grateful to Trustees and volunteers for the invaluable work they do to keep the hall in its pristine condition. We would welcome any further help from volunteers on these occasions.

### **Hallmark**

In 2018, we were assessed for renewal of Hallmarks 1 and 2 and were successful- next renewal will be in 2021. We continue to be the only village hall in East Riding to have also achieved Hallmark 3. This is due for reassessment in 2020

### **The Future**

We are fortunate in having a very loyal and committed team of trustees and staff who work tirelessly for the good of the Village Hall and the residents of Swanland. The trustees will continue to manage the Village Hall for the benefit of all inhabitants of Swanland. We are always keen to welcome new Trustees and would be delighted to hear from anyone who would be interested in becoming a Trustee.

### **In Conclusion**

I would like to thank Trustees, staff and Volunteers for their continued support and all users of the Village Hall for their loyalty and the care they take in maintaining this valuable facility.

Sheila Ireland  
Chair