

Waterhouses Community Association
Annual Report 2011-2012.

We have had another successful year at the hall, for which we have to thank those who have helped achieve this – the Committee, the Volunteers and everyone who has come along and supported our activities.

We are losing 2 Committee Members as Rosemary Cox and Guy Millen are not able to continue. We would like to thank them for their contributions to the hall whilst Committee Members.

Also I would like to take this opportunity to say a very big thank you to Ann Barnshaw for all the publicity she has done over the years. Whilst Ann is remaining as a Committee Member, she is unable to continue as our Publicity Provider, although she will still be producing and editing the Waterhouse Wanderings. We are well aware of the size of the task she has been undertaking and are very grateful to her. We are still seeking a replacement – or replacements!

Projects:

Hedley Hill Terrace Play Area

August 4th 2011 saw the official opening of the Play Area. It was an exciting afternoon with games for the children organised by the council along with some refreshments. The weather was not as kind as it could have been – but what's new? The area is well used and the Wild Life area is ongoing with an information board being sourced.

Hall Garden

The 3 new benches were installed and have been well used, and seem to be wearing very well.

The improvements to the hall frontage (including the new sign) were completed and everyone seems more than happy with the 'cleaner' look of the hall. The Parish Council kindly donated 3 large flower tubs to Waterhouses – and they have been placed at the front of the hall. We are quite desperate for willing volunteers to help keep the grounds tidy!

Solar Panels

The Committee decided to put solar panels on the roof of the hall to combat the rising price of electricity (which is our highest expenditure).

Unfortunately we were too late to capture the best deal return wise, but are confident that once they are installed we will benefit greatly.

Hall Activities

The Events Committee have provided a full and varied range of activities over the year.

As well as our regular activities:

Drop In (thanks to Rhona), Tai Chi, Cinema Club (thanks to Andrew and Doug), Toddler Group (Thanks to Fiona Roberts), Social Cub, Family Nights (thanks to Kim & Sandra), Floorball, Wine Club, Summer and Christmas Fairs.

We have had:

The second free Village Trip, which went to the Forbidden Corner in August and was a big success. The hall also made funds available for a trip for W.C.A. members and volunteers, who went to Northallerton.

The Scarecrow Competition was held for the third year, along with the Produce Show. These were not as well supported as in previous years, but hopefully entries will be greater in number this year.

Other events included 2 Ceilidh's, a Nearly New Sale, Quiz Nights (which proved very popular), Lighting of the Christmas Tree, the Seniors' Christmas Lunch, the Children's' Christmas party . The new Zumba classes proved very popular – although we had to request that the noise be reduced as residents found it rather alarming.

Charitable Events – Coffee Mornings were held in aid of McMillan Nurses, Marie Curie and Bliss – a total of £420 being raised. Also 2 Family Fun Nights were handed over to the Beavers and Cubs to run and the takings were donated to assist their fundraising along with a donation of £200. A

new Scout Group was formed, so we now have the Beavers, the Cubs and the Scouts on a Monday night.

We had some good quality soft play equipment which had not been used for some years and as it took up a lot of space it was decided to donate it to Esh Winning Infant School who were very grateful.

It was decided to hold a Street Party and provide a commemorative gift to all children 16 and under to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

On behalf of the Committee, I would like to thank all those volunteers who take their time, and often spend their money, to help the hall continue to be a success. Without their support we would have a much harder job on our hands.

Lastly, anyone who would like to become a volunteer is always more than welcome – along with any fresh ideas for activities at the hall!