

Hill Rise Hall

AGM 27th July 2025

Good evening everybody and thank you for coming out tonight.

We will follow the usual agenda tonight, firstly I will give my report, followed by Tony who will give his treasurers report, we will also hear from the current committee members who will speak a little about what they do.

We will then sign in the committee for the upcoming year.

Hill Rise Hall continues to boast a number of different groups and ad-hoc bookings - now including a church group on a Saturday and also the NHS who hire out the small hall most mornings which is brilliant.

We sadly said goodbye this year to our long term cleaner Sarah but we welcome William and Emma to the fold - who have been doing an excellent job keeping the place spick and span!

We have moved forwards with the plan and are very much on track with what we set out to do in the last year.

Hopefully you will have noticed the new floor in the entrance hall, as you walked in - we used the grant from the council to complete our refurbishment of both this and the toilets and they look great!

I want to thank Tony for his efforts in not only organising this but also spending many a Friday last year (and more) decorating to save us money - ever the treasurer on the saving money side but genuinely we are really grateful for this.

I also want to thank our hirers for being patient whilst this work was being completed.

Next up on the plan is decorating - this is booked in for the end of July and will see the main hall and the smaller hall getting a makeover to bring it into the 21st century. Huge thank you to Diane who has done such a great job organising this and making it happen, all hirers are aware that this is happening and what it means for them.

Given where we are with committee members (small in no but not in effort!) - the main aim this year has been to move forward with the refurbishment plans and keep us compliant - both of which we have been successful in doing.

Diane has taken on the Health and Safety checks for which I am enormously grateful. A reminder here that all current risk assessments and policies are available on our website if anyone needs them (or just fancies a bit of light reading).

Sadly we have seen some vandalism this year - including the padlock being stolen from the barrier (a huge cost to replace)

A reminder please to be vigilant but also make sure the lock is locked on to the barrier when it is open or closed - any questions on that please ask one of the committee.

Later this year may see solar panels appearing on the roof (as previously mentioned) - I have no further detail on this at the moment but this is exciting!

I would like to thank Kasia, Tony and Diane for doing such a brilliant job keeping the hall running successfully.

Thank you also to Charlie who continues to do a great job looking after our bookings and regular hirers.

Finally thank you to Claire who works for BDBC and is a constant invaluable support for us.

Treasurer's Report

Tony

We have had a very busy year with the halls toilets and entrance refurb.

We had a grant from BDBC for £18,000 and the rest paid from the hall funds - totalling £27,022,46.

We still have a healthy balance and soon we will give the rest of the hall a lick of paint.

Committee Statements

Diane

My name is Diane, not only am I a committee member, but I have been a hirer of Hill Rise Hall for 32 years running "Happy Feet Dance Academy" and therefore have an interest in the maintenance of the hall.

I have organised the decoration of the main and small halls and pleased to confirm our first phase starts on Tuesday 15th July.

We have seen much improvement with new toilet facilities and thank Tony for his involvement and support in getting the work completed.

We hope with these improvements the local community will consider hiring our hall as it will be more appealing.

I also liaise with our new cleaner William and his wife Emma who have already made an impact on the cleanliness of the hall.

One of my most important jobs is to support Tony our treasurer.

Kasia

My name is Kasia Furs. I am a member of the committee overseeing membership renewal and community events.

I would like to express my gratitude to all members for their continued support, their renewals, and their efforts in bringing in new members. I am pleased to observe the improvements taking place with the renovations. I am hopeful that we will begin the new season with fresh ideas to further develop our community.

Committee swearing in

Before we get into this bit I need to share that I have made the difficult decision to step down and away from the committee - this has not been an easy decision as I am very passionate about this place - however the pressures of family life and work have meant that I have had to come to this point.

I won't however be stepping down until September and we have been working to recruit volunteers and look at options for the future.

As a result of this recruitment drive we have 4 new volunteers (some of whom I think are here tonight so welcome to you) who are all really keen and we are excited to bring them in to support us.

Claire - would you like to add anything at this point?

Is there anyone other than Diane, Kasia and Tony (assuming none of you are about to drop a bombshell) in this room who would like to stand again for committee?

Our newest volunteers - you can absolutely say yes now but no pressure as I know you are only starting to get to know us.

Tony, Kasia and Diane are you all willing to stand for committee again this year?

Close

Thank you all for coming out tonight we really appreciate you taking the time on a friday evening to support the hall.