  

**Village Hall Meeting synopsis**

**First Public Meeting – 21st Sept 1928**

**See copy of original minutes.**

**Oct 8th 1928**

Agreed that charges for lease of hall be 3/- per hour for entertainments, political meetings 10/-, meetings connected to local purposes 1/- & charitable purposes free. The charges to include light, fire & cleaning & to be same for three months.

Rules for recreation room were also made but not recorded in minutes but displayed on the notice board & passed at the meeting that took place on Nov 9th.

**Nov 9th 1928**

It was also proposed at this meeting that the recreation room be opened from Sat 10th Nov & it was decided to have the following papers – North Mail, London Opinion, Pearson’s Weekly & Wide World.

Was also decided that one dozen packs of new cards be bought.

**The London Opinion was a weekly magazine published from 1903 to 1954 when it was taken over by Pearson’s Weekly Men only.**

**Pearson’s Weekly was a weekly periodical from 1890 to 1939 & Wide World was a monthly publication from 1890 to 1965.**

**Nov 14th 1928**

It was agreed that the picnic/ show committee’s dishes be accepted on the following conditions;-

* The hall committee to have free use of the dishes, towels & table cloths for storage of same.
* The hall committee to be responsible for any breakages & to keep everything clean & in order.
* The hall committee to have power to grant permission for dishes etc. To be used inside the hall & charge for same.
* If dishes are to be used outside the hall permission must be obtained from the show committee.

The hall committee decided a charge of 2/6 be made when the dishes are used.

**Dec 12th 1928**

It was agreed that a concert & dance would be held on 31st Dec 1928, Mrs. Brown to interview various local artists. Charges for concert front seats 1/6, back seats 1/- & school children half price, the concert to start at 7pm with doors open at 6.30pm. Charges for the dance men 1/6 & women 1/-, the supper to be left in the hands of the ladies committee with a charge of 1/-.

It was also proposed that a piano be bought.

**Jan 11th 1929**

Was proposed & passed that a charge of one shilling per hour be charged when lamps and the fire is used, and one hour preparation time be allowed when the hall is leased.

Proposed by J. Gibson & sec’d by J. Wallace that if an application be made to lease the hall for entertainment during Lent then the Secretary to call a committee meeting to decide such application, sanction to hold Whist drive during Lent to be given by Secretary. This was revisited on Nov 6th 1933 and rescinded.

**Feb 27th 1929**

It was proposed that the hunt ball committee make good damage done to door keys, the amount to be half a crown. Committee decided to stop North Mail.

**Mar 18th 1929**

Was proposed & sec’d to have a whist drive on Easter Monday and prizes to be bought, Mrs. Brown, Mrs. Beattie & Mrs. Robinson to choose six prizes. Whist drive to commence at 7pm.

Was also decided to get Mr. Weightman to make a small gate of railings & erect them at end of hall.

**May 29th 1929**

Was passed that the military be allowed to hire hall.

Also agreed to disband all papers except Wide World magazine.

Proposed to have a dance on June 7th & every 3 weeks thereafter, a dance committee was formed.

**Sept 16th 1929**

Passed for recreation room to be opened from 28th Sept. to the end of March & the fee for using would be 2/6 per quarter and youths 1/-. Passed that all persons who paid one shilling last year be exempt from paying the same again this year. Decided that no meetings be held in recreation room on Saturday nights between 6pm & 10pm.

Proposed to get an evening paper, the following books & papers to be taken in; Evening Chronicle, London Opinion, Pearson’s Weekly & World Wide magazine.

Proposed to have committee meetings on first Monday in every month.

**Nov 4th 1929**

Was agreed to get some carpet bowls, Mr. Gibson to enquire about the cost of bowls from Gomages. Charge to be 1d per head for half hour.

**Dec 2nd 1929**

Agreed to purchase two stoves for heating hall, decided Mr F. Anderson to purchase same.

Proposed to rescind proposition to have indoor bowls.

**Feb 3rd 1930**

Was proposed that a member of the recreation room be warned by letter for breaking the rules.

**Feb 10th 1930**

Proposed that the use of hall not be granted for medical examinations on Feb 11th.

**June 7th 1930**

The secretary was instructed to write to three bands for tenders for music on Aug 4th.

Was proposed to charge 3d to enter Bazaar, Tea 1/- & supper 1/-, dance from 8.30pm to 1.30am gents 1/6 & ladies 1/-. Bread cakes etc. To be left in ladies hands. It was proposed to ask Lady Redesdale to open gift sale at 3pm.

**July 16th 1930**

The following sports were decided on for Aug 4th;-

1. Quoits entry 6d.
2. Treasure hunt 5/-.
3. Football kick.
4. Stepping the chain.
5. Old penny pitching.
6. Bowling at wicket.
7. Needle & thread race.
8. Potato race.
9. Egg & spoon race. - Entry 3d each.

Proposed to ask Mrs Smith-Netherhouses to open Bazaar.

**Sept 1st 1930**

Committee decided to pay income tax demand & also pay Mr. Weightman £55.

**Sept 22nd 1930**

Annual public meeting – The treasurer’s report showed a balance of £1-12-6 with a debt to Mr Weightman of £30.

The reading room to be opened from Oct 4th with a fee of 4/- for the season or 2/6 a qtr, new members 1/- entrance as usual. Each member to get a copy of the rules, so 100 copies will be required. The usual papers to be got plus the Sporting Dramatic & the Small Holder.

**Sept 29th 1930**

Was proposed to get some carpet bowls, but at Nov 3rd meeting this was rescinded.

**Nov 3rd 1930**

Was proposed that they have water into the village hall.

**Jan 5th 1931**

Proposed piano prices would be;-

1. Occasional use in entertainment 1-6
2. Two hours full use 2-6
3. Four hours use 4/-
4. Full night use 5/-

**Jan 22nd 1931**

It was agreed that Catclaugh have use of the piano at a cost of 7/6.

Also let J. Watson hire the hall at 25/- per day

In February it was agreed that the Women’s Institute could have use of the hall for meetings at 1/6 an hour for one year.

At the March meeting it was agreed that the motion passed at the Feb meeting regarding the WI meetings in the hall be rescinded, and that the WI have the use of the hall, kettles & piano (for one tune) at the exclusive charge of 5/- for three hours.

**May 19th 1931**

It was proposed & sec’d that G. Leighton & R. Wilson see Mr Byng about trust deeds for the hall. Following on it was decided the secretary write to the Hon. F. Byng regarding clause 7 in the lease

**Oct 3rd 1931**

Annual public meeting – The treasurers report showed an adverse balance of 1shilling 01/2d.

The reading room charges were changed to 2/6 for the first qtr & 1/6 for the second, with the usual array of papers to be got.

Any political meetings to be charged at £1.

Piano charges;-

1. Occasional use in an entertainment 1/6
2. Two hours use 2/6
3. Four hours use 4/0
4. Full night 5/0

The hall charge to be 2/6 per hour usage.

Football club to get use of hall for stripping and meetings £1 for the season.

At the Dec meeting it was proposed & sec’d for the usual New Year’s Eve whist drive & dance, the committee to get the whist prizes and the supper to be left in the hands of the ladies.

It was agreed to get the chimney swept.

Also agreed that the reading room rule no.4 should be posted up separately in large print to draw the attention of members to their obligation with regard to visitors.

The secretary to write for tenders for restringing of the piano.

**Jan 1932**

It was agreed to accept the tender from Messrs. Waddington & sons.

Income tax to be paid.

Proposed & sec’d that a licence be got so that refreshments can be served after 10pm.

**Mar 1932**

Proposed & sec’d that the hall could be let during Lent for a dance. It was agreed the hall could be let to footballers for a dance on Mar 12th.

**April 1932**

A letter from the Rev. F. N. Wright protesting against letting the hall for a dance during Lent, it was agreed that M. Clegg would write a letter of explanation.

**May 1932**

Mr. Clegg reported having met Rev. Wright and explained the matter of the Lent letting. It was suggested that pass out tickets be issued to those going out of the dance & recollected on their return back in to the dance.

Treasurer’s report showed a balance of £20-5-3. This is a large increase from the total on Oct 1931. Piano account £20-3-0.

The meeting expressed its deep regret at the death of their president the Dowager Lady Redesdale, it was reported that a wreath had been despatched to Batsford where the funeral was to take place on Tues May 3rd.

**June 1932**

It was decided to have the piano tuned three times a year at a cost of £1-1-0 for the year.

Proposed & sec’d to get more tenders for the painting of the hall by placing an advert in the Newcastle Journal.

**July 1932**

It was decided to write replies to all who had tendered for the painting job that the committee had agreed not to proceed with the painting of the hall this summer.

**Oct 1932**

At the annual meeting held on 1st Oct Lord Northbourne became president on all future meetings shall be held on the first Monday of the month

**Oct 3rd 1932**

It was agreed the reading room could be reopened and charges to be 2/6 for the first qtr and 1/6 for the second, and visitors to be done away with.

Proposed & sec’d that the caretaker to be re-engaged.

The New Year’s Eve dance admission charges to be – 6d for ladies & 9d for gentlemen, the secretary to write to Armstrongs to supply music & if they are not available to try locals.

**Dec 1932**

Reported that the secretary had engaged Armstrong’s band for the dance, the supper was in the hands of the ladies.

Report of the result of Ladies night on Dec 2nd showed a profit of £11-2-10, vote of thanks to the ladies committee.

**Jan 1933**

The treasurer’s report showed a balance in hand of £27-3-5.

Proposed & sec’d that Mr Clegg could hire the room for 1/- an hour for school dancing lessons.

It was decided that the secretary should write to the County Council about the road margins at the front of the village hall.

**Feb 1933**

Proposed & passed that a sub-committee be appointed for the road margin, this would consist of G. Leighton, W. Corbett & R. Wilson.

Proposed & sec’d that a donation of 10/- be given to the nursing association as well as a donation of 7/6 be given to the school party.

**Mar 1933**

It was agreed to advertise for tenders for painting the village hall as well as writing to those who sent tenders last year, tenders to be in by March 31st.

At a meeting on Mar 20th it was carried by a vote to allow the letting of the hall for a dance in Lent (Apr 1st)

**Apr 1933**

At the 3rd April meeting after looking through all the tenders received to paint the hall it was decided to go with Mr W. Weightman. It was also decided the secretary should write to Mr W. Brydon regarding the cost of tarred stone to cover the margin in front of the hall.

**June 1933**

It was agreed that the footballers be charged 14/- for dance, and the secretary to write to the secretary of the football club to the effect that the hall had not been booked for a dance but a meeting.

**Aug 1933**

Rochester library offered the books and cupboard to the reading room, was agreed that the books and cupboard be accepted – but the cupboard be left in the school. Secretary to arrange accommodation of the books, Mr. Clegg to estimate shelf room required and report back to the secretary. The shelf is to be erected above door and the Secretary to consult Mr Weightman about ventilation.

**AGM 1933**

Notice of motion proposed by Mrs. Brown & sec’d by Mr W. Corbett that the letting of the hall in Lent to be discussed at next monthly meeting.

Mr Weightman to be engaged to remove wood inside of ridge in big room.

Reading room to be opened for first qtr at old fees commencing Oct 2nd, sub-committee to get the papers.

It was proposed to get a notice board 3ft by 2ft 6in and for it to be a case with glass front, hinged & provided with a lock, also to be retained for private use.

**Oct 1933**

Notice was given by Mrs. Brown & Mr W. Corbett that at the next monthly meeting they will propose the rescinding of the minute of Jan 11th 1929 regarding the letting of the hall during Lent.

**Nov 6th 1933**

It was agreed that the broken pedal on the piano be repaired by the piano tuner. Mrs Brown was asked to see to the repair of the material at the back of the piano.

Was also proposed & seconded to buy a table tennis table to be set up & installed in the reading room.

**Dec 4th 1933**

Mrs Brown suggested that Bellingham Institute may have a table top for sale. After discussion was left to Mrs Brown to make further inquiries & purchase if she thought fit & buy a set. The library sub-committee to sort out books & bring them along.

The ladies night in support of the hall raised a balance of £10.7.6. It was agreed to purchase a coco matting rug for the hearth & 2 table cloths for tea tables, Miss Leighton was asked to make enquiries about the cost of linoleum to cover the reading room floor.

**Jan 4th 1934**

Was proposed & carried that a book be provided for the reading room for members to sign & write the name of the book borrowed, to also include the date of borrowing & returning.

**Feb 5th**

Infirmary & nursing to be charged full amount, sum above 10/- to be returned as a subscription.

Lady members of committee to purchase floor covering,

**March 15th**

Proposed & seconded that a concrete wall 9 inch thick along old border (from porch to wall) with iron fence & wicket at west end. Margin outside wall to be made with slight fall to road, freestone foundation with tarred chips on surface. Wall to commence at 6inch above road level at West end and run level with building. Railings 2.5 foot high painted green. Mr R. Robinson & Mr M. Storey to be asked for tenders.

Proposed Mr J. Corbett see Mr J. Wallace that contractor be instructed to cast soil dug from road margin into the inside of wall after clearing out stone & leave it level.

**April 2nd**

Proposed & seconded that hearth be repaired as soon as possible.

Proposed & seconded that in regard the margin in front of hall Mr R. Robinson’s tender be accepted.

Agreed to hold dance on Whit Monday May 21st, Daglish’s Band to be engaged. Mr Prior to make enquiries regarding chairs & have power to purchase.

**July 2nd**

A letter from the W.I. regarding fee for embroidery classes, a fee of 2/6 for each class was passed.

Was carried that the account for the rails be paid.

The path down the side of the hall – Mr Robinson to be instructed to carry out the stoning of the path by the end of the hall & make the necessary adjustments to the drain.

Proposed by Mr Clegg & seconded by Mr Robison that June, July & August meetings are suspended unless specifically called by the secretary.

**Oct 1st**

Letter read from W.I. Secretary requesting storage of their oven & tea urn, request was agreed.

Football club have use of the hall for meetings & stripping, the reading room to be allotted for stripping & fee to be charged to be £1.

Mrs Anderson raised the question of price of hire of crockery suggesting it was too high, proposed Mrs W. Corbett & seconded by Mrs. Anderson that the price be fixed at 1/3. Was carried that the price remains the same.

Carried that the price remains at 2/6 for the reading room, papers to remain the same as last year with the Humorist replacing Pearsons.

Was agreed that the hall be lent free of charge for the children’s tea provided by the Hon Mrs. Smith on Sat 6th October.

Coal House – Secretary to write to Mr Byng about extra land to erect a coal house.

**Dec 3rd**

Agreed to hold a dance for the New Year, finalised band left to Secretary & supper to the ladies.

Also agreed to get a joiner to repair the chairs.

**Jan 7th 1935**

Proposed & seconded that an ash bin be purchased at price of 19/- as well as a cinder shovel, carried.

**Feb 1935**

Mr Robison to fix the new ash bin to a post in the ground. Was proposed & seconded that Mr Leighton be asked for a price for disposal of ashes. Also proposed & seconded to get Mr Leighton to inspect piano & give a price for repairs.

Coal house – Favourable letter read from Mr John Dunn, committee to arrange with Mr Dunn, Stubbs re land size 8ft long.

**March 4th**

Mr Amos to contact Waddington’s for an estimate to repair piano, & if satisfactory, in the opinion of the Secretary, be given the project.

Coal house to correspond with the porch width 8ft outside, door inside, 1 window facing south west, cement floor, boarded 4ft high inside with a shelf 12inches wide. Estimates from Messrs. Weightman, Ord & Muckle.

**April 1st**

Proposed & seconded that floor polish be purchased & charge 1/- per dance to the parties hiring the hall.

Agreed to charge the Jubilee Committee & return same amount as a donation.

**Sept 2nd**

Proposed by Mr Amos & seconded by Mr Clegg to give 10/- subscription to the Presbyterian Church bazaar & carried.

Tender for Coal house to be got before next Committee meeting.

**Oct 2nd 1935**

Secretary to obtain catalogue for fire extinguishers.

**Nov 4th**

Coal house – Proposed & carried that the coal house tender from Mr R. H. Ord be considered (It was the only tender!) Also proposed & carried that Mr. Ord’s tender of £18 be accepted.

Proposed that two lamps be obtained to hang on wall at the bottom the room during whist drives – carried.

Weights & measures be offered the little room at a rent of 10/- on condition that the room be vacated by 4pm.

Proposed that 3 dozen hooks be provided and on spar between two bottom windows at each side of the hall.

**Dec 2nd**

Coal house have a 2 foot square small door be put in (carried)

Fire extinguisher – Mr G. Leighton to make enquiry of the insurance company regarding a suitable extinguisher.

**1936 Jan 6th**

Proposed to obtain one No2 Invincible fire extinguisher price 36/-

Mr Wallace to obtain new pumps for lamps.

**Mar 2nd**

A letter from Versatiles Concert Party was read out; it was proposed & carried that permission be given for a concert only at usual charges.

Mr Armstrong to repair leaky lamps.

Mrs Brown to be asked to give her keys to the Secretary.

**Oct 5th**

Committee meeting held after public meeting, proposed that the hall year end on Dec31st instead of September 3oth & this committee to function until Dec 31st 1937.

Next public meeting to take place in Jan 1938.

**Oct 12th**

Proposed that the reading room be opened for first quarter to commence at once – fee 2/6 for first quarter. Books etc. Evening Chronicle, London Opinion, Pearsons Weekly & Leader. Dart board to be obtained.

Also twelve tea towels & 12 packs of cards to be bought – carried.

Proposed & carried a new stove to be bought.

**Dec 7th**

The ladies committee to order curtain material. Proposed & carried that decorations for hall be purchased & young men agree to put them up.

**Jan 4th 1937**

Proposed that Mr. Ormiston be wrote to for the price of curtain rod.

**Feb 1st**

Agreed to purchase 2 dozen chairs at 5/3 each, as well as a new mat for door into big room.

**April 5th**

Proposed by Mrs Robison & seconded by Mrs Wallace that the hall be given free for Coronation celebrations – carried.

Infirmary to have a donation of 10/- & school to have a donation of 10/-.

The Whit Monday Dance left in the hands of the Secretary.

Next meeting in September unless called by Secretary,

**June 14th**

Proposed & carried to have Calor gas lamps to light the hall 4 x 150c.p. lamps in the hall & 100c.p. lamp in the tea room as per quotation.

**Sept 6th**

A letter was read from the Coronation Committee thanking the Village Hall Committee for free use of the hall, was agreed that the letter be acknowledged.

Escape of gas from cylinder – Secretary asked to write to Calor gas Company requesting they examine for leak.

**Oct 5th**

The Secretary to Calor gas Company regarding the cloakroom lamp.

Proposed & carried that 1/- extra be charged if lights to be used in large room and limited to 4 lights.

Hirers of hall for a dance be requested to use only 4 suspended lights & stage lights. Reading room decision suspended until members come forward, Secretary to have power to open at his discretion.

**March 7th 1938**

It was agreed to charge the Vicar for the missionary meeting at the rate of 1/- per hour.

It was reported that the comp warden had taken 2 tables out of the hall. It was decided that the tables & forms had only been lent by the previous warden and must be returned when demanded.

**May 2nd**

An application was received from the Girl Guides for the use of the hall during race week. It was agreed to make a charge of 7/6 a night with a minimum of £2 & all damage to be made good.

The Secretary reported that the comp warden had called for another table.

**Nov 7th**

The Secretary reported he had asked Mr Robison to repair the water pipe leading to the hall supply.

The Committee agreed to open the reading room, The Secretary was asked to call a meeting of those interested at an early date.

It was agreed to give the usual donation of 10/- to the Nursing Association.

**Jan 16th 1939**

A special meeting of the trustees & new Committee was held to try again to find a new Secretary in place of Mr Clegg who had resigned, G Leighton agreed to act as Secretary.

Was agreed to buy a strong brush for the hall – it’s still in use today it has had 16 new heads and 5 handles!

**Feb 16th**

The piano that had recently been tuned was found to be out of order & it was suggested to notify Waddingtons who had repaired.

**Sept 4th**

Owing to the war it was thought that the hall would not be needed so it was decided to discontinue paying the caretaker a weekly wage & to pay the following for cleaning;-

* 1/- for a meeting
* 2/6 for a whist drive
* 5/- for a dance

Was also decided to have paper blinds. Date of next meeting left to Secretary.

**Dec 5th 1939**

It was agreed not to hire the piano out except for local events.

A complaint having been made about the condition of the crockery the ladies were asked to see to it.

**1940 – Oct 7th**

It was decided to reopen the reading room, J. Taylor & W. Dickson to be in charge. Charges etc. To be the same as before.

It was agreed to charge the home guards & girl guides at the rate of 1/- per meeting.

Piano charges were discussed & agreed to let the charges stand as before;-

1/6 for 1st hour, 2/6 for 2 hours, 4/- for 4 hours & 5/- above 4 hours.

The Secretary was instructed to engage H. Ord to paint outside woodwork of hall & the coal house.

It was also agreed to give a subscription of 10/- each to Red Cross fund & Hurricane fund.

**1941 – March 3rd**

The letting of the hall was discussed due to the Calor gas running short.

Was agreed to let the hall to Catcleugh Infirmary Whist Committee on Fri night March 7th providing that they brought some oil lamps in case the Calor gas had not arrived.

**Sept 1st**

It was agreed to invest £50 in the post office savings bank in two names G. Leighton & Mr. Clegg.

Also agreed not to make a charge for the use of the hall for jam making this year.

Reading room to be opened from Oct 1st at usual fees.

**Nov 3rd**

The rules for the hall were required before a deposit was made in the savings bank. Mr Clegg & the Secretary were instructed to make out a new list of rules.

**Jan 12th 1942**

ANNUAL MEETING – The minutes of the last general meeting were read & passed. It was proposed & carried that the present Committee stand again for the year 1942.

The financial statement showed a balance of £64-13—0 for year ending Dec 31st 1941.

It was agreed that the library books & old card board in the hall be handed over for salvage.

Also agreed that an extra oil store be bought.

**Oct 5th**

Agree to let the W.I. working party have use of the reading room & free fire on Wed afternoons.

The Committee was not in favour of opening the reading room.

The Secretary was instructed to write to the piano tuner to come soon.

**Jan 22nd 1943**

ANNUAL MEETING – Minutes read & passed. The financial statement showed a balance of £59-3-3 for year ending Dec 31st 1942.

It was decided that present Committee stand again for the year 1943.

The present officials were again appointed, was decided to re-engage Mrs Robison as caretaker at present wage.

Was decided to make the charge for crockery 1/- when only the band had suppers at dances.

The Secretary was instructed to write to H. Ord to make a chest to hold the Calor Gas cylinders.

**Dec 6th**

Owing to the uncertainty of the size of the gas cylinders it was decided to leave over the making of the wooden box until a more convenient time.

Was decided to ask A.J. Anderson to repair chairs, also R. Robinson to attend to the water supply.

It was agreed to hold Old year’s night dance if a band could be obtained. Ladies committee to see to supper for band.

**Jan 1944**

ANNUAL MEETING – The attendance was too small to hold a meeting.

**Feb 7th**

The present officials were again appointed. It was decided to add to the number of the ladies committee by asking the following;-

Mrs J. Corbett, Mrs J. Anderson, Mrs Glendinning & Miss Ella Scott.

It was agreed to charge 2/- for ordinary meetings instead of 1/- except for the home guards & girl guides.

It was decided to hold an Easter Monday night dance.

**Jan 16th 1945**

ANNUAL MEETING - The present officials were appointed again. It was decided to add to the committee by asking G. Corbett & J. Young.

It was agreed to hold two Sat night dances on Feb 3rd & Feb 10th to raise funds for the hall. As well as holding the Easter Monday dance.

**Oct 1st**

It was decided to hold a series of whist drives on the first Sat of each month from Nov to March 1946. Whist 2/- including supper.

Also a whist drive & dance to be held on New Year’s Eve, whist 1/6 dance 1/6. It was also decided to raise the charge for hire of hall from 2/6 to 3/- an hour from Jan 1st 1946.

Reading room charges to be 1/- to join & 2/6 per quarter, visitors 6d a night.

It was agreed to have the drain from the hall to the main drain cleaned.

**1946 April 4th**

It was decided to buy a new fire extinguisher from the Minimasc Company as the present one was out of order. Also a mirror for the ladies cloakroom.

On account of lambing it was thought advisable not to have a dance on Easter Monday night which was 22nd April.

Was decided to engage Robson’s Band for the dance on Whit Monday night which was the 10th June.

John Dixon was appointed Secretary & treasurer in place of G. Leighton who had resigned. Next meeting was fixed for the first Monday in June. (No minutes available for this date so the meeting probably didn’t occur).

**Oct 7th**

The reading room to be opened at the same charge 1/- to join, 2/6 for a quarter, & 6d for night visitors.

The Secretary was instructed to but new tips for billiard cues & a set of flights for the darts.

It was agreed to hold a series of whist drives to begin Oct 26th & run every 4 weeks until March. Whist 2/- including cups of tea, prizes of vouchers 10/- for first prize, 6/- for second, third prize 3/- & the lowest score 6d. It was decided that for every whist drive a pack of cards or 3/- must be given to the hall.

It was decided to buy a new heating stove as one was out of order.

**1947 Jan 6th**

ANNUAL MEETING – The Treasurers report showed a balance of £88-6-10.

It was decided the present committee stand except Jas Corbett & G. Corbett who had left the district.

It was proposed & passed to carry on the reading room on another month with the first quarter, as owing to a shortage of coal it was late being started.

Three new table tennis balls to be purchased & two new wicks for heating stoves.

It was decided to put £30 in post office savings bank.

**Oct 13th**

A letter was read from the Northumberland & Tyneside Council of social service inviting the committee to send two representatives to a conference held on Oct 4th 1947 in the council chamber, County hall.

It was proposed by Mr Clegg that the Secretary write for particulars to affiliate in the Village halls & playing fields committees.

All agreed to start the series of whist drives to begin on Nov 8th, a special prize to the value of £1 for the lady & gentleman having the highest aggregate score in first five drives.

It was decided to call a meeting for those interested in the reading room. The Secretary was instructed to ask for tenders for the painting of the hall from Messer’s. Ord, Glass & Weightman.

**Dec 8th**

A reply was read from Northumberland & Tyneside Council of social services, also an invitation to send delegates to the next meeting on Dec 20th 1947. It was proposed that we send the name of a delegate and the affiliation fee of 10/6. Mr Clegg agreed to attend the next meeting & give a report at our next meeting.

There was a tender for the painting of the hall; this was to be produced at the next meeting.

Mr Clegg agreed to purchase a dozen packs of cards for the whist drives.

It was proposed to give the caretaker a copy of the duties & to be responsible for the locking up after functions.

It was proposed to ask Mrs Jackson to provide a supper at the dance on New Year’s Eve, the ladies committee is asked to wait on at tables.

**Jan 5th 1948**

As the caretaker had resigned and there had been no applications in response to notices for same it was decided to raise the salary from 7/- to 10/- a week. The Secretary was instructed to ask certain people in the village to take on the job.

It was agreed to hold dances on Easter Monday, Whit Monday, August Bank holiday Monday & New Year’s Eve, and bands to be booked as early as possible.

People from Otterburn who attended the whist drives were to be allowed to stay in the hall until their bus arrived, J. Little to stay & lock the doors.

The tender from R.W. Glass for £52.17/- was accepted, he was also to be asked to provide a tender to paint the inside of the windows.

A form was produced from the post office savings bank to be signed by the trustees, Secretary & Treasurer so that future applications to withdraw deposits from the fund can be obtained by any two of the signatures. The bank book was to be transferred into two signatures those of G. Leighton & J. Dixon.

**Feb 2nd 1948**

The Secretary was instructed to write to Waddington’s asking for a man to come & give advice on the piano.

The crockery list to be checked & deficiencies made up out of funds.

New oil stove to be bought for heating purposes, also a valor wick for the old one.

A permit was to be obtained from the food office to buy soap for the caretaker.

**March 8th**

The committee decided to become insured covering their liability to pay damages to members of the public using the hall.

The gate to the gent’s toilet to be repaired before the painting commenced.

If possible a pane of glass was to be obtained for a window.

**Oct 4th**

It was agreed to hold a series of whist drives to run monthly from Oct 23rd to April 9th, prizes to be bought to the value of £2 for each whist drive as well as running a 6d raffle, with cups of tea provided.

All were against holding the reading room.

If no band could be engaged for the New Year’s Eve dance it was decided to ask the local fiddlers to play for an old fashioned dance.

**Nov 29th**

All agreed to give Lord Redesdale a free hand in buying a new piano, if advice is needed the pianist from Carr’s band was chosen.

**Jan 3rd 1949**

Treasurer’s report showed a balance of £79-7-3 for the year.

Received Mrs. Dickson’s resignation from the committee, it was decided to make an addition by asking the members of the piano committee – Mrs. Rough, Mrs Wright & Mrs. Dunn.

It was decided to raise the charge for the hire of the hall to 4/- per hour for entertainments, meetings 2/- for the first hour & 1/- every hour after & the W.I. 6/- per night.

It was proposed not to hire the hall on Xmas Eve until further notice, also to book Carr’s band for same.

**Feb 21st**

A letter was read from Mrs. Wright offering to pay the £15-6-9 still owed to Lord Redesdale for the new piano. It was decided to thank Mrs. Wright for her kind offer but to pay the debt from the hall funds.

**June 13th**

A letter was read from the Northumberland & Tyneside council with a list of dramatic productions including two plays by George Bernard Shaw – The man of destiny and Village wooing. These were found to be too expensive or not suitable.

**Jan 5th 1950**

Was decided to have a whist drive & dance on Easter Monday night if vacant, the band to be booked for the dance.

The Xmas whist drive & dance to be held on 23rd Dec & Old Year’s dance on Dec 30th.

**Feb 6th**

The numbers for the supper on Easter Monday night were fixed for 100, to be bought from Mr. Nichol of Wark. As the show table cloths were badly worn it was decided to buy new ones, the same to be left to the ladies committee Also two new heating stoves.

It was agreed to buy 1 dozen collapsible forms if the price was suitable. The Secretary was instructed to see Mr. Reed & have the lights examined as soon as possible.

Also decided to have the piano tuned.

**March 6th**

If the estimate from the Calor Gas Company was around £5 it was decided to have the lights thoroughly overhauled.

**Jan 15th 1951**

ANNUAL MEETING – The financial statement showed a balance of £68-4-10 an increase of £13-4-11

It was agreed the same committee stand except Mrs. Hood

It was decided to have the ladies committee count the crockery & have numbers made up as it had been suggested there was a lot short. Also increase charge to 4/- to be kept in a fund of its own.

Permission was given to the War Memorial committee to have a tablet with names of the Ex- service men on, to hang in the hall.

**Oct 17th**

This looks to be the first meeting of the year as there are no minutes in the book.

The dates for a series of whist drives were settled as follows – Oct 2oth, Nov 10th, Dec 15th, Jan 19th Feb 16th & March 15th. With vouchers 10/-, 6/-, & 3/- & cups of tea at half time.

Xmas Eve whist – 2 ducks to be bought for special prizes the rest to be begged. Supper to be left in hands of ladies.

Next committee meeting Nov 5th & ALL members to be informed.

**Nov 5th**

It was decided to enquire if they could have use of the school for the whist drive on Xmas Eve.

Whist to commence at 7pm charge 2/- dance at 10pm charge 1/6, supper 1/6.

New Year’s Eve dance 2/- supper 1/6 in charge are the ladies committee.

As the lights in the hall were needing attention it was thought advisable to write to the Calor Gas Company and have them examined by an expert.

It was decided to claim from the Water Company for any damage done to the railings outside the hall.

**Jan 1952**

Financial statement showed balance of £91-4-3. Also showing list of reappointed Committee members.

**April 5th**

As there was a shortage of crockery it was decided to purchase 8 dozen cups & 4 dozen saucers.

The charge for hire of the hall was increased to 5/- per hour for entertainment, W.I. 7/- per meeting, 3/- for the use of crockery & piano charges to remain as before.

Permission was granted to have the library in the hall, but to inquire if a charge could be made.

As the gate at the corner of the hall was broken it was decided to either have it repaired or purchase a new one.

**Sept 1952**

A series of whist drives were arranged for the second Saturday in each month during the winter. Prizes would be 10/=, 6/-, & 3/-, with a special prize of £1 for the lady & gent having the highest aggregate score in four of the six drives. Charges whist 2/-, raffle & K.O. 3d.

As the roof of the hall was in need of paint, it was decided to buy the paint & 2 brushes. The painting to be done voluntary by the committee.

Prizes were offered as followed for Xmas raffle – Mrs. Wright a bottle of whiskey, G. Scott a bottle of port, Mrs Rough a fruit cake, Mrs. Butterford six glasses & Mrs Stobie a ladies jumper.

**Oct 30th**

Xmas eve whist & dance was left in the hands of Mrs L. Corbett to purchase 2 ducks for prizes. All local business proprietors to be asked to give prizes, several of the committee who were not giving to the raffle offered to subscribe with a prize for the whist drive charges for whist (24 hands) 2/6, dance 1/6, supper 1/6.

It was decided to have the Coronation committee to have use of the hall free for meetings and on Coronation day.

**Dec 4th**

It was decided to move the whist drive scheduled for Dec 13th to Dec 16th to avoid a clash with the Woodburn Xmas whist drive.

**Oct 28th 1953 –**Next set of minutes in minute’s book.

Whist drives were arranged for the coming winter months.

It was proposed to buy 2 ducks for the Xmas Eve whist drive, also to have the bills for the whist drive dance & raffle ticket printed as soon as possible.

It was decided to contact the electricity company to find out cost of bringing the electric light to the hall, also to have tenders for the wiring of eleven lights & one point.

It was proposed to raise the insurance from £600 to £1500.

**Dec 3rd**

It was decided to ask Mr G. Telfor to paint the roof of the hall, the paint having been purchased from N.J.T.S. in Bellingham.

**Dec 12th**

It was proposed & carried to accept the tender of £39-10-6 from Mr. Thomson for wiring the hall for electric lights.

**April 12th 1954**

Annual meeting – Financial statement showed a balance of £115-16-2 for year ending Dec 31st 1953.

It was decided to increase the insurance against fire to £1500 with a premium of £5-12-6, also to purchase 2 dozen tea spoons & 3 milk jugs.

**June 14th**

Mr T. Little was appointed trustee in place of the late G. Leighton.

**Nov 17th**

Mr F. Leighton was appointed a trustee in place of the late Mr J. Amos.

Mr G. Telfor was to be given a reminder about painting the hall roof.

A special charge of 5/- per night was agreed for wrestling academy, also permission to place rings in the wall to fasten the matting.

It was agreed to buy 2 Aylesbury ducks from Mr J. Armstrong of Earrick for prizes for the Xmas Eve whist, also to have a pocket book raffle.

**Dec 13th**

Officials were appointed for the Xmas Eve whist drive & dance, as a large crowd was expected it was decided to ask permission to have the school for the overflow at the whist drive as well as have a loan of tables & chairs from Byrness Village hall.

**April 14th 1955**

ANNUAL MEETING – It was proposed to increase the public liability insurance to £3.

The charge for the Upper Redesdale Show society was fixed at £5 for the show day & meetings.

A dance was arranged for Whit Monday, music by the Border County Dance Band, charge 2/6 with a buffet supper.

**Oct 11th**

Usual whist drives arranged for winter months.

It was agreed to hold dances & supper on Xmas & New Year’s Eve with the Border County Dance Band to be asked to play at both dances.

**1956 Annual Meeting**

Financial statement recorded £93-7-4 & appointment of officials & members

Two dances organised for Whit Monday & August bank holiday Monday.

**Oct 24th**

Winter whist drives organised as well as the annual Xmas Eve Whist drive & dance, with 2 ducks to be purchased for prizes, the New Years Eve dance was also organised.

A request from Rochester W.I for a fire in the winter months was considered, this was agreed but to raise the hire charge by 1/-.

A message was to be sent to the water company to say how much the hall would require so they could give an estimate for the work. It was thought advisable to have enough for a sewerage system.

A report is to be sent to the show committee regarding the state in which the tables were returned & the damage done in the hall kitchen.

As the chairs & windows needed repairs it was decided to ask L. Hindmarsh if he would repair them.

**Dec 11th**

It was agreed to ask MR G. Rutherford to mend the chairs & windows.

Also decided to enquire if a grant could be obtained to help with the water scheme.

Six packs of cards to be purchased before the Xmas whist drive.

**Jan 22nd 1957 -** ANNUAL MEETING

It was decided to apply to the director of education to provide us with forms to apply for grant aid in respect of the water scheme. To also ask Messrs. Nixon, Mackay & Telfer for estimates for the water schemes.

It was agreed to have a whist drive dance & raffle on Whit Monday (June 10th) raffle prizes to include an Otterburn Mill rug, fruit cake, ½ bottle of whiskey & 50 cigarettes.

**Feb 9th**

As Mr. Hedley of Whitelee had offered a lamb as a prize for the raffle it was decided to add this to the prize list for the raffle on Whit Monday (it’s not recorded if it was live or butchered).

It was also decided to apply to the Carnegie United Kingdom Trust for grant aid – a rough estimate was made for the application n;-

* Electric kettle £4
* Chairs £60
* Card tables £20
* Water £48-12
* Plumber £29-10
* Kitchen utensils £10
* A total cost of = £172-20

**June 3rd**

The whist drive, dance & raffle arranged for Whit Monday bank holiday was changed to the August bank holiday Monday – whist to commence at 8pm, 27 hands to be played, cakes to be purchased for a buffet supper & 100 books of raffle tickets to be purchased. Thomsons band to be engaged for music.

**July 22nd**

The officials were appointed for the whist drive & dance on Aug 5th as follows;-

* Whist cards – L. Farrell L. Corbett.
* M.C. - J. Scott
* Dance door – J. Scott, R. Wilson & L. Corbett
* Refreshments – 8 dozen bottles pop, 5 dozen rolls, 5 dozen sausage rolls & £!’s worth of small cakes.

**March 31st 1958 –** ANNUAL Meeting

As the Carnegie trust would not give a grant aid towards the installation of piped water it had already been applied for from the Education authority.

Mr G. Rutherford to be asked to paint the windows (undercoat & gloss).

It was agreed to have a whist drive & dance with a raffle on August Bank Holiday with Andersons band to be hired for music.

It was agreed that anyone hiring the hall should be responsible for any damage done to the hall.

**July 9th**

It was proposed & seconded that a piped water supply be installed, also proposed to offer Mr J. Rutherford £5 to paint the window, the question of painting the roof and the fireplace to be brought up at the next meeting.

It was also proposed to offer Mr A. Dobson £1 to clean out the drain behind the hall – it was later found to be unnecessary.

**Oct 22nd 1958**

It was proposed to purchase 5 gallon drum of bitumastic paint for the roof of the hall & invite tenders for painting same, also to ask Mr J. Rutherford to paint the outside doors.

It was agreed to purchase 36 chairs at £1-14-0 each & 4 card tables at £4-19-9 each from the British tubular manufacturing Co ltd at Gateshead.

The charge for the youth club was settled at 2/6 per night with social events to be extra.

The series whist drives to be run as usual, fortnightly on Tuesday nights, the whist drive dance was arranged for Xmas Eve with 2 ducks to be bought for prizes, the supper as usual & raffle at 3d.

New Year’s Eve dance with music by the Border Country Dance band, Mr. White kindly offered a half bottle of whiskey for a raffle prize.

**Feb 26th 1959**

ANNUAL MEETING – It was proposed & seconded that the same committee stand, it was also proposed & seconded that T. Little; G. Dixon & L. Corbett put their signatures in the post office savings bank book to act as trustees.

All agreed to give Mr G. Rutherford £3 for painting the doors, the fireplace was left again until later.

It was proposed to give a subscription of £2 to the Northumberland Rural Community Council.

**PHOTOCOPY OF NAMES OF TRUSTEES**

**SEPT 15TH**

Treasures report showed a balance of £245-7-7 the profit for year 1958 being £30-11-9.

There were two tenders for painting the roof the one accepted was from Raymond Corbett for £10.

The Xmas Eve whist drive & dance was arranged as usual 2 ducks were to be purchased for prizes from Mr L. Corbett, the raffle 3d each of 5 for a 1/-. It was proposed to ask Bill Johnson’s band to play at the dance.

**April 13th 1960**

The financial statement was passed showing a debt of £58-16-3 on the previous year leaving a balance of £186-11-4.

It was decided to buy some new table cloths – this was left to the ladies committee. Tenders to be invited for painting the sides, ends & railings of the hall.

**Nov 9th 1960**

It was agreed to have the annual Xmas Eve whist & dance, as usual 2 ducks to be purchased for prizes, Mrs. Little kindly offered a box of chocolates for a 3d raffle prize, music to be by the Bill Johnson band for the dance. A dance was also arranged for New Year’s Eve & music by Dobson’s band from Kielder.

A series of whist drives were arranged to run fortnightly on Tuesday nights during the winter months – 2 before Xmas & 6 after, with prizes of 6/- 4/- 7 2/-, score cards 2/- & cups of tea – numbers of attendees must have declined as the prize money has dropped from previous years.

It was decided to buy ten lamp shades.

NEXT RECORDED MINUTES ARE FROM;-

**Dec 7th 1961**

It was decided to charge dressmaking classes 7/6 per night.

Whist drive & dance arranged for Xmas Eve again - Johnson’s band for the music & 2 ducks to be purchased for prizes again (Ducks must have been popular prize as this has been a reoccurring for quite a few years now!) For supper the ladies decided to make sandwiches & to purchase 1 dozen loaves, 3 dozen scones & 8 dozen mixed cakes.

A dance was also arranged for New Year’s Eve, with a series of whist drives to start from Jan 9th 1962.

NEXT RECORDED MINUTES ARE NOT UNTIL;-

**March 10th 1964**

ANNUAL MEETING – The same committee members were appointed with the addition of Mrs. Telfer.

Chairman - L. Corbett, Vice Chairman R.D. Wilson & Secretary J. Dixon.

The financial statement for the last two years – 1961 & 1962 was read & passed.

Tenders to be invited for painting the hall, & charge for hire of the hall was raised to 7/6 per hour, meetings at 5/- & W.I. 10/- for the night.

**Aug 24th 1964**

Mr Dickson was the only one to tender for painting the hall so this was accepted at a price of £60, the paint being bought from Bellingham store & W. Glendinning.

It was decided to start a series of whist drives in October.

**Sept 2nd**

It was decided to allow the brownies to have their meetings in the hall; a special charge was made of 5/- per week. It was also made a rule that they must clear everything away after them & if necessary take all their belongings out of the hall.

**March 12th 1965**

ANNUAL MEETING – The treasurer’s report showed the financial statement of the last two years with a balance of £131-17-5.

It was decided to enquire the cost of raising the fire insurance to £2000.

The ladies committee decided to check crockery & tea towels.

Mr G. Famelton was to be approached regarding a second hand fireplace.

It was also decided to have a bring & buy sale & whist drive on June 12th.

A committee meeting is to be held before lambing time.

**April 9th**

The bring & buy sale was discussed for June 12th; it was decided to have stalls of produce, bottles, fancy goods, jumble & a tombola with tea afterwards. The sale to be opened at 3pm by Mrs. Davies, Mrs Robison & Mrs. Wallace having refused, admission to be 3d, whist drive to commence at 8pm admission 2/6. The posters advertising this to be wrote out by the Secretary to keep down expenses.

The W.I. was given permission to keep their crockery in the hall.

**Oct 26th**

A letter of thanks to be sent to Major & Mrs. Dance for the fireplace. The Xmas Eve whist drive to be held as usual & 2 ducks to be purchased for prizes.

It was decided to purchase a new dustbin & to ask a local joiner to renew two floor boards at the entrance.

**April 1st 1966**

ANNUAL MEETING – It was proposed to withdraw the money from the post office savings bank & deposit it in Lloyds Bank in Bellingham with so much in a current account to pay all bills by cheque.

The caretaker’s resignation was accepted and a poster to be placed in the post office advertising for a new one.

It was decided to ask Mr. Weightman to visit the hall & give his advice & an estimate on cleaning & decorating the inside of the hall & installing flush toilets.

**July 27th**

It was decided to apply to the education committed for a grant towards new toilets & cleaning the hall.

It was also decided to ask Mr. Clegg if he could find out form if the council had any plans for a new site for the hall when the new road was made.

The one application received for the caretaker’s post was not accepted, it was suggested we should ask Mrs Murray.

The Secretary was instructed to purchase one heating stove.

**Nov 23rd**

It was decided to cancel the application for grant aid towards the alterations to the hall.

A whist drive was arranged for Xmas Eve & 2 ducks to be purchased from Mr. Gray as prizes.

Enquiries to be made about an extension for the power plug if the joiner is to be asked to mend the floor at the front door.

**June 30th 1967**

ANNUAL MEETING – It was proposed to write & ask Mr. Trotter to give his advice on fighting the County Council.

A bring & buy sale to be held on Aug 26th & Lady Redesdale or Lady Bicester to be asked to open it.

**Aug 17th**

Stall holders were appointed for the bring & buy sale the same as 1965, flowers to be purchased from Nichol to present to Lady Bicester.

It was decided to invite Mr. Trotter to the next meeting on the 4th or 5th Sept to give his advice on fighting the council.

**Sept 5th**

Mr. Trotter was welcomed from the Northumberland & Tyneside Council of social services & gave his advice on fighting the council, his main advice was to have a professional valuer & to have a separate account at the bank classed as the Building Fund.

The result of the bring & buy sale was read – the total being £63-7-71/5.

The series of whist drives to start from the 9th Oct, a whist drive to be held on Xmas Eve & 2 ducks to be ordered from Mr. Murray.

**1968 – Feb 22nd**

Same committee members appointed with the additions of Sheila Corbett & J. Tully.

The treasury report showed a balance of £332-2-6.

The charges for the hire of hall were increased to 10/- per hour, with meetings 5/- per hour & over hours at the same rate, W.I. meetings £1 per night, playing cards 4/- instead of cards being given & crockery 5/-, Rochester show & meetings inclusive £7.

It was discussed about bar in hall at weddings but it was found that there was no conditions which we might not do so.

**Oct 3rd 1968**

It was decided to have a whist drive on Oct 25th – a Friday night at 7.30pm, which cards to be 2/6 T. Little to be MC & G. Wilson & L. Corbett to sell cards. Prizes promised & also box of groceries to be gathered, ladies to make a cup of tea & biscuits & sandwiches.

Mr Trotter to be asked about grant on fire extinguisher, a new fire extinguisher to be got preferably £14-10, Mr W. Glendinning to be asked to replace light bulbs & tiles to be repaired in fireplace.

**Dec 17th**

The usual Xmas whist drive was arranged & whist prizes to be asked for with the ducks again promised from Mr Gray.

Tiles were repaired on the fireplace & a new fire extinguisher was purchased.

**Jan 28th 1969**

The same committee members appointed with the proposed additions of Major Dance & Mrs. Telfer.

Treasury report showed a balance of £71-14-1.

Insurance of hall was discussed & it was decided to try & get more suitable quotes.

It was agreed to have a whist drive on Mar 1st.

**June 12th**

It was agreed to see if Atlas Insurance Co could combine all insurances & what premium this would be, as other companies had given more attractive quotes.

A bring & buy sale to be held on Sept 1st & Lady Redesdale to be asked to open the sale with the reserve being Miss Wilson from High Rochester, & stalls to be as usual.

**Aug 18th**

Arrangements made for bring & buy sale, Lady Redesdale accepted & it was decided to present her with a box of chocolates, A. Telfor of Bellshiel to present them.

**Dec 1st**

Arrangements made for Xmas Eve whist drive & dance with M. Gray promising 2 ducks for prizes.

**March 1970**

It was agreed that the roof & windows should be painted & L. Corbett to obtain paint also agreed to purchase fablon to put on bench.

**June 15th**

Fablon to be used & also a small piece of Formica to be put in middle of bench.

The painting of windows & roof to be done on Wed, Thurs & Fri nights following this meeting & any time after if not completed.

A bring & buy sale was discussed but the date suggested was not suitable.

**Sept 15th**

It was proposed to have a bring & buy sale on Sat 14th Nov, & Mrs Petty to be asked to open the sale. A whist drive is to follow the sale with a charge of 5/-.

The voluntary working party to be charged £5 for a 2 night stay.

**1971**

The next couple of years were quiet with not much happening. At the annual meeting on Feb 8th the financial report was reported in old money as we went decimal 7days later on 15th Feb.

At the committee meeting on Feb 8th it was proposed to have a sale of work & concert combined, but this changed at the Oct 5th meeting to have a small bring & buy sale as well as a film show proceeded by a concert of local artists. A date to be arranged as no suitable date could be agreed.

**Dec 1st 1971**

Arrangements were made for Xmas whist on Dec 24th at 7.30pm – whist boards to be 15p & 2 ducks were still a prize.

The social night arranged for Jan 7th at 7.30pm to consist of film show, music items, & a small bring & buy sale with a raffle to be arranged. Artists to be asked to come were;-

* J. Hutton - small pipes
* A. Bertram - violin
* M. Head – singer
* J. Rogerson – Violin
* B. Coulson – Accordion
* J. Anderson – Entertainer
* J. Elliot
* M. Parkes – Bellingham camera club film show.

Raffle tickets 5pence (shilling crossed out in book!) & a supper buffet to be given.

**March 14th 1972**

It was proposed that the charges be increased for dance & other occasions to 60p per hour, whist to remain at £2.50, a list of charges to be displayed in the hall.

It was suggested to have another social evening this next year.

**June 20th**

Lord Redesdale was wishful to show slides or films in aid of the village hall & he was to be asked to do so, when a suitable date & time were available. A gift stall of miscellaneous goods & supper to be given at 25p for adults & children at 12p, bills to be made & stall & supper put on bills & announced at club.

A fire extinguisher to be acquired as well as a cocoa door mat to be purchased. Glass still to be purchased to put in windows & notice board.

**Aug 7th**

This meeting was proposed it any further arrangements were to be made regarding film show but practically nothing further required.

**Oct 30th**

We decided to resume with little whist drives on Wed night 8th Nov & thereafter as arranged.

Arrangements were made for Xmas whist which was to be held on Sat 2nd Dec at 7.30pm – whist boards 15p & raffle tickets 2p each or 5 for 10p.

M. Gray to be asked about ducks, the secretary also has a list of others to contact.

Social evening concert to be held on Jan 5th or 12th whichever is the most suitable. All the previous artists to be asked again with additions – The Linn Lads, Caterside Lad & J. Armstrong. Charge 50p, children 20p & raffle 2p.

**March 19th 1973**

It was agreed to increase charges for the hire of the hall – Whist £3, dance £3, & £1 an hour for any other hire. Committee meetings 60 p an hour, show £10 including show day & W.I. meetings £10 annually. These charges to be displayed in hall on Sept 1st.

**Oct 14th 1974**

Mr Robson is coming on Friday 1st Nov to talk, start time 7.30pm adults 40p & children 20p, A. Dagg to entertain on the Northumbrian pipes will include a hand round supper by the ladies committee.

**Dec 3rd**

Arrangements were made for Xmas whist – boards 20p & M. Gray to provide 2 ducks as a prize.

**March 19th 1975**

It was proposed & accepted that it was necessary to install toilets in the village hall & ground was to be asked for & afterwards planning permission sought.

Tiles to be put on the fireplace – J. Telfer & P. Telfer to provide material & work.

**June 3rd**

Plans for the improvement to the hall were to be made with the help of G. Slobie & submitted for approval.

**Nov 24th**

It was arranged to start the little whist drives on 6th Jan at 7.00pm.

It was thought necessary to have the hall roof repaired & to get Ronnie Armstrong to do this.

Xmas whist was arranged – J. Little to be MC & W. White & L. Corbett to sell score cards at 25p.

Concert to be held on Oct 20th & artists to be arranged later.

Mr. Com has made plans for improvements to village hall which will need to be approved by hall committee & council.

Whenever there is another general election the charge for the hall to be £15.

**Mar 16th 1976**

The plans of suggested improvements were discussed & were to be submitted for approval.

**June 27th**

The hall insurance was looked into & found that we could insure with the NFL mutual & Avon for the same at a decrease in premiums.

Mr Trotter to be consulted about improvements to the hall & what grants will be available for same & how to proceed further.

Estimates to be sought for building improvements & a list of names submitted.

The concert on Oct 2oth – artists approved & others to be sought.

**Oct 6th**

No further development was made in building plans, the main purpose of the meeting was to finalise arrangements for the concert n Oct 20th.

**Dec 19th**

The Xmas whist was arranged, it was also decided to have another meeting on the 22nd Dec & have Mr. Batten attend to ascertain what help we would be able to get in grants etc.

**Dec 22nd**

We had Mr. Batten at the meeting to discuss grants to be had. It was decided to wait until next year to get 75% grant from the community council of Northumberland.

**Feb 12th 1977**

The meeting was held to discuss fire prevention liability & to review & decide what system of heating would be most suitable for village hall.

It was decided to accept Mr. Nixon suggestion for heating, & the added expenses for same to be faced.

I will see Mr. Batten in a few days to discuss these extra expenses.

**June 27th**

The Northumberland Education Committee wished us to extend the grant of £6,000 to £7,500, to include the lowering of the ceiling & new wiring, interior decoration, curtains.

To appoint solicitors to arrange & draw up agreement for lease & trustees.

Thanking W.I. for offer of clock for hall.

**March 14th 1978**

Mr. Batten was present at the meeting to explain the necessary adjustments to be made to the lease & trust deeds, owing to the repairs & further commitments it was necessary to employ a solicitor to instruct us in the charity commission national council of social service.

It was decided to write to Nichol & Short electricians for an estimate & also find out if other estimates obtained previously still stand.

A letter was received from the W.I. stating that a plaque would be put up beside the clock after alterations to the hall had been completed.

**June 12th 1978**

It was decided to accept G. Rogerson’s estimate for alterations to the hall as well as the estimate supplied by him for electrical work – the total £5,020 did not include the installation of a heavy duty cable.

The secretary to write to N.E.E.B & find out the cost of installing the necessary cable.

**Aug 29th**

Mr Batten attended the meeting in connection with the updated lease & new trust deed. Mr Batten advised that a minute was necessary recording the appointment of all new trustees, previously agreed at different times to serve with the only surviving trustee Robert Wilson of Woolaw Farm, Rochester. It was moved by Mr G. Wilson & seconded by Mr J. Tully & duly carried that the following be confirmed as appointed trustees for the time being;-

* William John Anderson, Todlaw House, Rochester - Retired farmer.
* Thomas Little, Redeholme, Rochester – Retired Council for Lab.
* Thomas Telfer, Holemill, West Woodburn – Farmer.
* William White, Redewater View, Rochester – Farmer.

All to act with the said Robert Wilson.

A letter was read from Northumberland County Council stating that the village hall was to receive grants of £5,620 towards the cost of the provision of toilet facilities & cloakrooms. This being made up as follows - £2,750 of grant aid from the Dep’t of Education & science, £1,875 from the Education committee & district & parish council grants totalling £1,000. The village hall to pay not less than 25% of the actual cost.

A letter from the electricity board stated that a new transformer & an extra pole would be necessary to carry the extra power required, this to cost approx. £1,000 – Mr Batten said he would look into this matter for us.

A new fire extinguisher to be ordered from G. Rogerson & installed in the entrance porch to meet the new fire regulations.

**Nov 30th 1978**

It was decided to hold a whist drive on Dec 23rd – score cards 30p & raffle tickets 5p each.

The Secretary to write to G. Rogerson & find out if his estimate included painting & decorating.