



Honley Village Community Trust  
Annual Report  
2018

Presented to the Annual General Meeting  
14 May 2019

## **HVCT Secretary's Review**

During the year January to December 2018 the Management Committee held 9 quorate meetings. This met the requirement under section 6 of the Trust constitution that there should be no fewer than 8 meetings.

The Trust has a consistent format to its committee meetings with standard agenda items including a report from the Treasurer on our financial position. The Committee monitors its actions through an Action Schedule which is updated at each meeting. It is through this regular monitoring that the Trust has been able to steer an effective and efficient course to ensure value for money.

Following on from the Trust being awarded the Queen's Award for voluntary service in 2017 the Trust received the Duke of York's Community Initiative Award presented to community projects based in Yorkshire, to recognise excellence in voluntary work. The award was presented by the Duke of York in Sheffield on 24 April.

In addition to the management committee meetings other meetings have been held by the various sub-committees as required and these, together with the help of many volunteers, have been essential to the running of the Trust. Reports from the sub-committees provide information on the range of activity undertaken by the Trust.

The Trust has continued to lead and contribute to initiatives and activities in the village. We supported the Honley Feast celebrations in September and the work of 'Friends of Honley' in improving the appearance of the village. The Trust is an associate member of the Honley Business Association and supports the Christmas Market by holding a Christmas Fair in the Village Hall, with 2018 being another successful year. This year the Trust also held a successful plant sale and craft fair in June, raising further funds for the work of the Trust

The Trust is taking the lead in the Honley Remembers Project and there is a separate section in this annual report devoted to this project.

During 2018 the Trust received £4706 from the Co-op Community Fund after again being nominated by the people of Honley as their chosen charity.

After this meeting all of the relevant documents will be placed on the Trust website.

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*Steve Hemming*

**HVCT Village Hall Committee Report**

At the moment the Village Hall is still owned by Kirklees Council and is rented by the Trust on a full repairing lease which means we pay rent to them but we are responsible for all maintenance costs including music licences, water, insurances, heating; in fact everything. We are in the final stages of seeking asset transfer from Kirklees to take over ownership of the building and some of the land around it.

During 2018 we had one or two maintenance expenses which are mentioned in the treasurers report. We needed to replace the front door security shutter motor when the old one literally ground to a halt. We also needed to get a new mower to keep the grass around the hall in good order. The Village Trust absolutely depends on its lovely volunteers so when we asked on Social media for a volunteer to cut the grass around the hall, we were lucky enough to have two people offer, Adam Douglas and James Nightingale – many thanks to them.

At the end of 2017 we lost a major hirer of the Hall when Kirklees Council cancelled the daily booking for the Disability Group which used the hall every weekday. However we were fortunate that the slot was taken up in 2018 by Lynn Allen who runs Ability Options which is similar facility in the private sector. Lynn uses the hall 09.30 to 3pm 4 days a week. The 5th weekday slot was booked by Denby Dale Centre, a charity which offers day care for people in the early to mid stages of dementia. The third new and very popular evening booking was from a French Dance Group called Le Vendredi Danse, who meet at the hall on the 2nd Friday of the month. LVD offer an evening of French dance and music similar to a Ceilidh and is a proving very popular.

Elim Church continues to hire the Hall for two services on Sunday. The evening groups of Slimming World on Monday and Weightwatchers on Thursday evenings continue to thrive, as does the Pilates Class on Wednesday evenings. Sadly the only youth group meeting at the Hall now is The Rainbows, part of the Girl Guiding Organisation, they meet on Tuesday evenings during school term times.

Saturday is popular for children's birthday parties averaging two bookings a month. Several Weekend events took place here in 2018 including charity fund raisers, also Kirklees Council which hires the hall to use as a polling station for local and national elections.

In the Spring of 2018 The Trust held a fund raising plant and garden sale at the hall. It was organised by Debbie Flanagan and raised about £300.

The Boules pitch at the side of the Hall is very well used, and in July the Holmfirth U3A French language group together with Petanque players held a Bastille day BBQ and competition.

In December 2018 the Trust's 9th Christmas Craft Fair was held at the Hall to coincide with the Street Market and Christmas Tree Festival. This year the event was even bigger and better with several extra stalls outside the hall under gazebos. The Trust had to buy several extra-large folding tables to accommodate the increase, but these will be useful for future outdoor events both here at the hall and on Magdale Field. The Christmas Fair was well attended and raised a record amount for the funds. The Trust would like to thank Debbie Flanagan for again organising this event.

So to sum up the Village Hall is once again running at near capacity and as well as proving an income for the Trust is offering a valuable venue for Village Community Activities.

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*Marcia Murray*

## **HVCT Land Committee Report**

The work of managing the land owned by the Trust would not be possible without the dedicated work of volunteers from the area. The group have met on the second Sunday of every month during the year unless the weather prevented the work taking place. We have a core number of up to 10 volunteers and it would be helpful to increase this number. We made a further donation to River 2015, who are working to treat Japanese Knotweed along the Holme Valley.

The main activities during the course of the year have been:

1. The paths through the land have been maintained and cleared of leaves and other debris when necessary.
2. The room beneath the chapel has been cleared and reinforced to provide a secure storage space for Friends of Honley.
3. A bench, backed by a field gate has been installed by Whitby Bridge, and wild flowers have been sown in the garden area.
4. A Tree Safety Survey was undertaken by an arboricultural consultant and following an application to Kirklees Council necessary tree surgery undertaken, involving the felling of some diseased trees and the pruning of trees along Magdale Dam bank. Limited tree work was also undertaken to trees overhanging Magdale.
5. Clearance work around the saplings planted on Magdale Bank.
6. During the summer we have continued to uproot Himalayan Balsam to limit its spread along the goits and river. This will be an ongoing task every year.
7. We have assisted in the clearance work taking place at the graveyard.
8. The hedge laying was completed near the entrance to Magdale Fields from Coach Lane and this is now producing a valuable wildlife habitat.

### *Neil Littlewood*

Due to other commitments Neil has decided to step down from the Trust Committee and the responsibility for the management of the Land at the 2019 AGM, but will continue to be a volunteer. His commitment to the management of the land and other Trust activity over many years has been

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greatly valued and will be missed, but we will continue to call on his expertise as a volunteer.

## **Over 55s Activities Group Report**

The over 55s has grown this winter, we have our maximum number of 40 members. We finished the year off with a trip to Meltham golf club, 30 members attended. We reopen the first Wednesday in October.

*Pat Barr*

*Secretary, Honley Over 55s group*



I think I have worked harder in this last year than when I was working and earning myself a living!

BUT it will all be worth it on Saturday 20 July 2019 and Sunday 21 July 2019 when we commemorate 100 years after the Peace in Honley at the end of World War One.

We are nearly there now and it will be a weekend to REMEMBER in every sense of the word.

I have been so lucky to have worked with lots of individuals, most businesses and organisations in the village to get the weekend ready and to receive their support for such a worthwhile cause.

All profits raised from the weekend will go to The Royal British Legion (Honley Branch).

Please do come along and support an event to Remember the men who left this village never to return, the men who came home and died of their wounds both physical and mental and also the villagers who stayed at home and kept village life going for their return.

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## WE WILL REMEMBER THEM

### Honley Flyer Report

**The primary purpose of the Honley Flyer is to inform the village about what the Trust is doing. Secondly to report on and promote village organisations and thirdly to feature personal Honley stories. It comes out quarterly.**

#### **EDITOR (To the end of Dec 2018 –John Murray)**

The lead story should preferably be on a Village Trust matter.

The Village Hall has half a page- written by the Hall Manager (Presently Marcia Murray)

The Trust Volunteers (Land and maintenance work)

Get current information for the next three months from local organisations by phoning them or email or meeting. These can be short items or just 'What's Ons'

Schools- Any extra-curricular events. Anything from the pubs or clubs.

## **Sponsors**

## **Spot**

The length is around 300 words and includes a picture. The emphasis is preferably on the character and connection to the village rather than on the sponsor's business itself. The previous editor John Murray has written most of these pieces but there's no reason why someone else shouldn't do it.

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**It's the adverts that pay for the Flyer printing.**

## **ADVERTISEMENT MANAGER Mrs Jo Bonds**

### Advertisements

Find advertisers; in general, local advertisers,

A rate card is available with the prices. Book the spaces. Get invoice sent to advertiser. Ideally invoices are sent and payment received before publication. Refer advertiser to the editor for content of the ad.

Print cost keeps going up and we may have to increase the current rates.(again)

## **DISTRIBUTION MANAGER (Daphne Smith)**

There are around 40 volunteer distributors, organised by Daphne Smith.

Distribution involves getting the 3150 copies from the printer, counting them out into bundles for each distributor and taking the bundles to them. The amounts vary from 20 to 120.

Distribution takes place, hopefully, on the last weekend of the quarter- i.e. last weekend in November, February, May and August.

Daphne has a list of areas / distributors which needs to be kept up to date. Distributors may need to be replaced- some leave Honley, some for other reasons. Distributors are very important, people but it is not always possible to get someone who actually lives in their favoured distribution area. But without them the Honley Flyer would not exist!

*John Murray*

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## **Friends of Honley (FoH)**

### Commercial

FoH was able to deliver the majority of tasks in its business plan for 2018, thanks to

(a) income of £1k, made up of:

- 2 individual benefactors who donated £100 and £500
- HVPC who donated £100 and
- Customers of the Co-Op, who donated £300 to our graveyard appeal bucket at Honley Co-op.

(b) the generous support of Honley's businesses and Holme Valley Rural council, who supported seasonal colour in the form of

- hanging baskets, tubs and flower towers
- barrier planters of summer colour, particularly at HBearings Car park and Magdale Bridge, the latter thanks to Steps Business Park businesses specifically, Jaw Engineering, Roberts Caravans, Magdale Testing and Tatchell motors

(c ) significant expenditure of note was our new lawn mower for Green Cliff, which at a cost of £450 was a significant investment.

### Our goals and achievements

These are outlined below in summary form:

Area	Specifics	Achieved (y/n)
Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monthly village tidy, (litter, strimming, painting)</li> <li>• Renovate our street furniture</li> <li>• Continue to enhance our 5 routes into/out of/in Honley               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Huddersfield Rd (@ Queens Business &amp; @ Magdale Bridge, Steps Business Parks)</li> <li>- Meltham Rd (Taylors)</li> <li>- Moorbottom (@ the roundabout)</li> <li>- Honley station</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Y Y Y Y Y N (still to prove chevron band to replace chevron street furniture) Y
Social Heritage & Responsibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support our green spaces (Jagger Lane &amp; People's Park)</li> <li>• Restore Green Cliff               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- War graves located for Honley Remembers</li> <li>- Access to graves possible by removal of brambles and undergrowth</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Y Y Y
Intergenerational support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Seek opportunities to include all ages in community projects for display in appropriate businesses to maximise seasonal commercial opportunities               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Halloween spiders knitted and crocheted for display in businesses</li> <li>- Ghost walk for Youth Club</li> <li>- 12 Days of Xmas art work</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Y Y Y
Commercial Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Seasonal planting throughout Honley to maintain the best possible environment for businesses, visitors, and residents</li> <li>• Planting and management targeted at improving the 5 routes into Honley</li> </ul>	Y Y

### Our partners and volunteers

The above deliverables could only be achieved through the generosity of Honley's businesses, partners and volunteers. In addition to those businesses mentioned under "commercial", thanks

must also go to each of the businesses who chose seasonal planting to enhance their business and our 5 routes. Furthermore our appreciation to Allsopps, RJ Reynolds Design and Kirklees for their assistance with the next phase of the roundabout's development. Due to the safety imperative of this project, we are still awaiting the final design of the chevron boarding, and their tenacity in the latter is duly noted.

Similarly Kirklees Parks and Volunteer teams have been superb in providing support in People's Park and Green Cliff, whilst Penistone Line partnership has provided their time and money in tactical renovation of Honley's station.

We are also very fortunate to have such exemplary 3<sup>rd</sup> sector organisations in Honley, with particular thanks to Friend 2 Friend, Honley Library, Honley Civic Society, our churches, Honley Youth club and of course our parent, Honley Community Trust.

And finally through rain, and shine, there's our volunteers:

- they have turned out each Monday @ 1 pm at Green Cliff to uncover the graveyard and its history
- whilst on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month @ 10 am at Honley Library for our village clean up.
- Alongside these groups, we've been helped by special heroes such as Roger Beevor, whose talent allowed us to build 6 magnificent wooden planters at Magdale bridge, and Bob Smith, who continues to invigorate the inexpensive litter pickers that FoH purchase/can afford, with new parts. After Bob's intervention, the pickers are easy to operate for all ages and abilities, and much longer lasting.

Thank you to Roger and Bob, our businesses, 3<sup>rd</sup> sector groups, our many partners and each of our volunteers, without whom we couldn't do what we do.

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## Honley Youth Club

We were a bit nervous waiting to see if anyone showed up the first evening, but show up they did, tentatively and a bit mistrusting of us to start with. The basic craft materials on offer drew the first three or four around the table without feeling vulnerable or having to talk. After a while they joined in and the chat started. We were immediately impressed by the artistic talent of a couple of them and it was decided as a group that next week would be stone-painting. Pizza was served and at least one admitted they had not had tea. The next week a couple of the originals brought a friend and that was it – we were running! Since then the numbers have grown slowly and steadily and relationships have formed, the young people started to trust us and have on occasions confided in us. Many of our young people are known to the care system and police which is a surprise to many in our village. We have many people offering craft sessions or other expertise, such as White Wolf – bushcraft, Voice Coaching, Glass Fusion and Pyrography, You Bring the Band – mobile jam session, and a Graffiti Artist as well as pumpkin carving for Halloween displays in the village. We have also had routine visits from the community police discussing various safety issues and self-protection and just saying 'Hello,' and making themselves known to the young people.

The Ghost Walk was much appreciated despite some misbehaviour, but this marked a turning point in the perceived relationship with the village when it was explained to the members that people were giving their time, effort and money to ensure this club was there for them, the adults they saw at the club were unpaid volunteers and they were supported by unseen support from the villagers. The Christmas Disco Party was a hit and the unexpected 'special visitor' bearing gifts was a surprising hit with many of our supercool teenagers having a chat with Santa and receiving a small gift. One of the surprises of the Christmas Fayre was some of our members performing for the village which was something they had never done before, the confidence built by Chris from You Bring the Band and voice coaching from Irene Pirrera. This led to one of our girls getting together with a friend and carol singing at venues around the village.

Funding from various sources has allowed us to buy a stock of quality craft equipment and activities such as Rock Painting, Fabric painting, decorating a tree for the Christmas Tree Festival, model car racing and model aeroplane painting, table tennis, badminton and various games as well as a one off hire of an inflatable assault course which was great fun. Funding has allowed us to take the young people out on various trips especially LazerZone and HTFC Football Match with further monthly trips planned for Parkour, climbing wall, cinema and hopefully Roller Disco.

The future; we are looking at trialling 4 nights a week for the for 8 to 14 year olds during the 6 week school holidays and eventually if we get enough volunteers we would like a group for Junior School Pupils.

"The kids are doing well, they are some sort of good behaviour. The kids love socialising and play fighting" – Madi

"The youth club is good because it keeps kids off the streets and we go on trips" – R

"Fun – see our friends, [and we go on]trips with our friends" – J

"[We like] food, piano, trips, activities, the workers, most of the people, good socialising, free wifi [we want ] more trips more often, more fun activities to do inside, more disco and party. – E,D, K & E

*Margaret Wadsworth*