



Kirkbean Village Hall
Chairperson's Report for AGM on 2nd March 2026
Charity Registration Number: SCO 48517

2025-26 what a whirlwind of a year. Lots has happened for the hall over the last year.

Regular bookings of badminton, pickle ball, pilates and more recently the stitch circle are very good for the hall and events seem well supported. Other events held throughout the year have been bingo, film nights, beer & gin festival, Eco fair, heritage weekend, Spring fling artist weekend and Xmas fair amongst an example, all of these events allow us to showcase the village hall and what a great community asset we have. Rag bag donations have also allowed us to hold some community events for free.

There has been a lot of behind the scenes administrative, governance and monitoring of processes which have been progressing over the year. We are slowly moving from a Trust to a SCIO this process is being assisted by Richard at Third Sector, John Henderson's solicitors and OSCR this won't be a quick process but we will get there eventually. The new constitution was agreed and various hall policies have been written and will be presented to the committee over the next 3 months for approval.

We secured a grant from the Big Lottery in 2025 which has allowed us to upgrade our heating system and also to paint hall internally and outside will be done in summer 2026. Huge thanks to Sue Whitehead who secured this grant for the hall.

Wi fi has been installed in hall which should help any hall user and people hiring the hall, as well as stall holders who are wishing to use card payment machines.

Kirkbean Village hall also received money from East Criffel Community Transport, approximately £20 k. When ECCT folded the residual money in the accounts had to be paid into a charity bank account, hence why the Community Council decided on the Village Hall as we are a charity. The money will be used for the hall committees discretion and if there is a local charity that we feel would benefit we can provide funds.

Japanese Knotweed work will finish in 2026. The hall continues to look marvellous with the grass getting regularly cut by Dean Brown the flower beds being attended to by Jim Kirkland and the windows being cleaned by Gordon Carson.