
This has been another difficult year for the Association as costs continue to rise and income diminishes. We are conscious of the prevailing economic situation where goods and services continue to cost more – heating, insurance and electricity while traditional sources of funding for external hall hire has dried up or finished. This situation has been made worse by changes in local government through the review of public administration where the first year has provided real challenges for operation of the community centre under licence.

The recent changes in the community centre’s heating system has had a marked impact on its appeal for use by groups who traditionally would have used the centre. The heating system has been modified by the Council in such a way that it costs 20% more to heat and the heating system produces much less heat. One group of older people had to abandon a meeting because it was so cold.

We continue to participate in Britain in Bloom with pleasing results and we thank those businesses who have supported our endeavours. Although not successful we know that this investment has encouraged many other businesses to provide better displays and private houses too have been quick to respond to the challenge. This has also been the case for Christmas decorations in the village and we are grateful to Fermanagh Omagh Council for their continued support.

Our biggest challenge in the year to come is the final push for our Space and Place project in collaboration with Ederney Trust and Fermanagh Omagh Council. This large project has required significant resources in terms of time and effort. Once under procurement we hope to make application for core running costs to an appropriate funding body and consider a fund raising strategy for the year ahead.

Finally may I thank Supporting Communities NI for their continued help and support in preparing the accounts and for their approachability at the end of the phone.

Neville Armstrong

Treasurer