

## **Access Statement for Slaley Commemoration Hall**

The Trustees of Slaley Commemoration Hall manage and maintain the facility based on the Charity Constitution which states:

“The object of the charity is the provision and maintenance of a village hall for use by the inhabitants of the area of benefit without distinction of political, religious or other opinions, including use for: (a) meetings, lectures and classes, and (b) other forms of recreation and leisure-time occupation, with the object of improving the conditions of life for the inhabitants.”

To achieve these objectives, we have the following in place:

- The following statement is printed on the inner foyer door and explains the ethos of our community building.

*“Welcome to our Hall, anything you need please approach anyone on the management committee. We hope you enjoy your experience of whatever event you are attending”.*

- We are mindful of people with reduced mobility and have provided a ramp for ease of wheelchair access, handrails at the steps and accessible toilet facilities.
- We are mindful of people with reduced hearing ability and have installed a hearing loop.
- We are mindful of the need for hall users to have modern communication facilities and have installed FREE internet access.
- We are mindful of the needs of carers of young children and have provided nappy changing facilities and storage area for their own toys, games and equipment.
- We are mindful that the catering facilities need to meet the needs of young and old alike. Many people do not always want a cup and saucer but prefer beakers for their hot drinks therefore we have provided a selection of modern beakers. This is in addition to the more formal plain white full dining crockery for 120 people.
- We are mindful that visitors have concerns about allergies and food hygiene and we encourage all our user groups to adhere to some simple good practice guidelines.
- We are mindful that using the hall for our visitors can be daunting and to make their experience easy and straightforward we have produced a User

Guide which explains everything from how to use the dishwasher to where to find a band-aid.

- We are mindful that the hall could become a wedding venue and to help couples consider the Hall we have produced a Wedding Guide, providing details of everything from Taxis to Outside Catering and from Florists to Magicians.
- We are mindful that the hall could be used as a business hub and after securing the support of the community owned village pub who would supply the catering needs, we are currently putting together a leaflet.
- We are mindful that the Hall has many attractions for different groups and none are discouraged from making a booking. Example users of the hall include:
  - A Newcastle based men's group regularly books the Hall for weekend stays and events.
  - The Church provides a Big Brekkie in the Hall during Christian Aid week and also runs a family Messy Church Club.
  - French Wine Exporters frequently hold wine tastings at the Hall.
  - The Hall is the Polling Station for parishioners in Slaley and neighbouring Healey parish.
  - North East Ambulance Service hold Emergency First Aid Training courses in the Hall, these events are subsidised by Slaley Parish Council to make the training accessible to all.

Reviewed: November 2021

Signed by Chairman.....

Date.....