

Meeting	Community Development Committee
Date	3 rd December 2024
Report Title	Post Event Audit – Barn Dance – 15 th November 2024
Agenda Reference	7
Author	Jo Newman Memory Café Coordinator

Officer's Recommendations:

To note the report.

Background

The Memory Café Coordinator organised a Barn Dance for the Memory Café attendees and the Over 60's within the parish. The event was a lovely way to integrate people living with Dementia and their companions with the wider community.

Figures

Number attended: 42

Ticket Sales: 34

Total Expenditure: £660.18

Total Income : £340

Net Expenditure from budget (4330/402): £320.18

Testimonials / Photos



"Thank you for a great afternoon, we all had a brilliant time."

"Looks amazing well done."

"A fun couple of hours yesterday at the Memory Café Barn Dance. I haven't laughed so much in a long time"

Post Event Learning Points

Here are the learning points to consider for events in the future:

- **Advertisement of the Event:** The event was advertised on the notice boards, social media, handed out to attendees of other initiatives, such as the Haydon Wick Haven and on the Community Bus, Wi and the Haydon Wick Bowls Club.
- **Entertainment:** The entertainment was great and set the tone perfectly. The band Black Velvet Ceilidh were fabulous, the caller, was patient and gave people plenty of time to practice and try new dances, even joining in himself.
- **What Went Well:** Having the live music was a topic of much positive feedback, the volunteers were very attentive and added to relaxed and friendly atmosphere, the tables and room were well decorated with a Barn Dance theme, borrowing straw bales from Purton Farm to add to the ambience.
- **How To Improve:** Unfortunately, the event clashed with Turkey and Tinsel trip for some of our regular residents, for next year the Memory Café Coordinator has liaised with the Over 60s Club when they will be going on their regular trips, so they won't miss out. It was also felt that some extra communication will have to be put in place with the GLL Haydon Centre staff for future events, as they seem to be given vague instructions on set ups and what we required for the room etc.
- **Venue:** The event was held in the GLL studio room, this was a nice size to seat 42 attendees and felt very comfortable and warm.
- **Set up:** The 2.5 hours set up time was adequate for this event, a fuller brief with the Parks & Open Spaces Team next time will help with items required to come over i.e. pull up banners.
- **Food & Refreshments:** Will be checked with the suppliers prior to them leaving, as it transpired during serving the food, that there were not enough burgers supplied. The caterer has apologised and offered a full refund. The attendees have been given a good will gesture of 50% reduction off the next Barn Dance. A meal voucher will be supplied next time, so that attendees can hand over their ticket upon serving the food as there is a time lapse between ordering the food and the event.
- **Balloon Arch:** Really visual and welcoming. It was suggested that we could tie the balloon arch in with all events that week, so that all the work creating it, isn't lost within that one event and can be enjoyed by a wider audience and repurposed.

Summary

Joyful moments were shared by all, live music filled the air creating a wonderful atmosphere. The dedicated team of volunteers showed exceptional commitment in their support of the Memory Café Coordinator, going above and beyond as they always do. With such heartwarming feedback from attendees, it truly proved to be a rewarding experience for everyone involved.