

To Whom It May Concern

As current coordinator of the Elphin Craft Circle I would like to say how essential the Elphin Community Hall is to the operation of our group.

The Craft Circle was formed in 2011 and has been operating continually from that time. The number of people who attend every week varies but has been as many as 23 and included men and women of all ages from young 20s to over 80s. These people come from the surrounding areas in Assynt and into Wester Ross. Craft Circle is a place where people can learn new skills, practise old ones, pass on crafts and knowledge, and also, importantly socialise with others with the same interests. In fact, the social side of this is equally if not more important than the skills and traditions being learnt. As a group, we have also organized community projects that involve a wider range of people who do not normally attend Craft Circle. Several of these projects have resulted in finished community arts projects that now decorate the Elphin Community Hall.

The ELKCAL have been very supportive of us and our use of the Hall. The Hall is the perfect central location which enables all our members to attend without having to travel excessive distances and allows the neutrality so that all feel welcome.

We fully support ELKCAL's bid to purchase the Hall from Highland Council so that they can continue to operate the building as a community centre and to invest the time and money into improving the facilities available to all the members of our isolated community.

Ann O'Keefe