

DUNCTON VILLAGE HALL

ANNUAL REPORT

13 OCTOBER 2025

We are pleased to report that the Hall has again been used during the year for a variety of activities including six weddings in this calendar year (and one already booked for 2026), wedding anniversaries, birthday parties, family get-togethers, reunions, funeral receptions and wakes, camping, caravan, cycling and Croquet Club events, First Aid and Emergency Life Support courses, dog scent training, election days, company training, and team building days (including overnight camping). There were also weekly bookings for art, qigong, and a local choir.

The Parish Council, Duncton school, Catholic Church, Rother Valley Croquet Club, and Petworth Cottage Nursing Home use the Hall for their meetings. Local community events have included village coffee mornings, a Fun Dog Show last July (with another planned for August 2 next year), Macmillan Coffee mornings, a TableTop sale for Macmillan Palliative Care Midhurst in September, and Fireworks last November (this year it'll be on October 31). The touring Rude Mechanical Show held on the recreation ground on Thursday June 26 was again a welcome treat, with over 120 people in the audience enjoying whimsical theatre on a lovely warm Summer's evening.

Our financial year runs to May 31. In 2024/5 turnover was £28.2k, with expenditure at £18.0k, so a declared surplus of £10.2k. At the year-end our reserves (excluding damages deposits held) stood at £49.8k. So, the charity's finances continue to be in very good shape, though we are mindful of wide-ranging inflationary pressures on our cost base and a noticeable reduction in wedding bookings for next year.

After many years of capital improvements, we have in the past year focussed on repairs, maintenance and refreshing the paintwork. But over the past six years our investment programme has been a major commitment. The projects completed include a new floor, windows and doors, curtains and tracking, a fire door, a heating system upgrade, internal repainting, a refurbished decked area at the rear of the Hall with a fine view across to the South Downs, acoustic panels to improve sound quality, a new fire protection system, a replacement shower unit, new doors for the bin storage area, and a 5G wi-fi hub to improve internet and mobile phone reception. And in August this year we installed a new boiler and thermostat.

During this time we have also invested in a new set of crockery, additional glassware, a new cooker, coffee machines, a replacement water boiler, a table-top freezer, display cabinets, a new computer, a set of new round tables and grey chairs suitable for weddings and other major hires, storage trolleys, and new picnic benches. That truly is quite a list, with each of the projects managed in-house.

These investments have certainly enhanced the appeal of the Hall and been well-received by hirers and the local community. Our ongoing improvement programme will benefit all for many years to come. We see our task as Trustees as threefold – to ensure DVH remains financially sound, to keep the fabric of the building well-maintained, and to encourage wide use of the Hall. We are pleased to report all these objectives have again clearly been met.

We wish to thank Rob Knight (Hall Manager since October 2019) for his considerable efforts in managing the Hall, dealing with enquiries and bookings, and being very involved in all these projects, as well as undertaking most of our maintenance work. Also, many thanks to Becky Francois for cleaning and housekeeping; Andy Gadd for mowing the recreation ground; Sioux Allen for gardening; and of course, all Committee members who freely give so much time to ensure our valuable community asset is kept in good order and the business managed properly.

All members of the Committee are willing to stand for re-election and no other nominations have been received. The team comprises Tom Cole (Chairman, general management), Andy Beadsley (finance and corporate), Peter Thomas (liaison with Parish Council, projects), Helen Clifford and Sue Thomas (organising village events). Two long-standing members – Alison Pindell and Hilary O’Sullivan retired, having moved away from the area. So we would welcome new members to help with the management of the charity, especially with arranging local events and seeking grant opportunities to support further investment.

We look forward to working with all our hirers and the local community. We will continue to offer very generous discounts for locals, especially those wishing to organise community and charity events. We can help with the cost, organisation, and publicity for any worthy cause.

We have a great venue with wonderful views, and easy access and parking, and wish to see this used and enjoyed by everyone in the local community.

Tom Cole
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TC/131025

Duncton Hall & Recreation Ground
Registered Charity No 1076256
Financial Statements for the year ended 31 May 2025

INCOME	Y/e May 2025 £	Y/e May 2024 £
Weddings	13,000.00	8,425.00
Classes, meetings, etc	5,545.50	5,195.00
Camping	508.00	1,153.00
Other functions	5,178.25	4,730.25
Croquet Club	2,648.20	3,097.13
Grants	0.00	0.00
Garage rent	900.00	825.00
Damages deposits c/fwd	0.00	400.00
Damages deposits retained	323.78	124.00
Interest	91.08	78.28
Miscellaneous	0.00	0.00
	28,194.81	24,027.66
EXPENDITURE		
Hall manager	3,200.00	4,120.00
Rates	251.02	214.59
Electric	2,229.22	2,430.02
Water	368.38	757.48
Oil	0.00	0.00
Sceptic tank/bins	1,866.60	1,843.60
Cleaning	3,039.96	4,124.29
Grounds maintenance	2,827.00	2,586.99
Decorating	0.00	0.00
Repairs/servicing	1,610.35	3,359.95
Misc equipment	0.00	194.73
Phone/broadband	620.54	599.02
Insurance	1,035.54	1,036.47
Subscriptions/licenses	225.00	620.44
Sundries	200.00	82.25
Fixed assets	0.00	0.00
Advertising	140.00	140.00
Website	322.79	280.80
Functions	0.00	134.78
Bank charges	60.00	96.00
	17,996.40	22,621.41
Surplus of income over expenditure	10,198.41	1,406.25

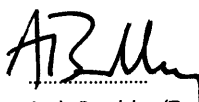
Cash book summary

Balance b/fwd @ 1/6/24	39,633.21
Receipts	58,701.03
Expenditure	(48,502.62)
Balance c/fwd @ 31/5/25	<u>49,831.62</u>

 10/19/25
John Fisher (Independent Examiner)

Allocation of funds

Cash book balance	<u>49,831.62</u>
Capital reserve	15,000.00
Maintenance reserve	5,000.00
Village events	65.00
Damages deposits held	1,100.00
General Reserve	<u>28,666.62</u>
	<u>49,831.62</u>

 10/19/25
Andy Beadsley (Treasurer)

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Duncton Hall & Recreation Ground

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31 May 2025 to which this report is attached.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the next statement.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached

Name: John Fisher

Address: 24 Welden Drive, Chichester, West Sussex

Date: 10 October 2025