

THE LITTLE ASTON VILLAGE HALL

Little Aston Lane, Little Aston, Sutton Coldfield, B74 3UF
Registered Charity Number: 1091921

Report for the Trustees and Unaudited Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31 December 2023

The Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2023

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LITTLE ASTON VILLAGE HALL

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 December 2023

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2023. The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' (effective 1st January 2019).

1. REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

1.1. Registered Charity Number - 1091921

Address:

Little Aston Lane, Little Aston, Sutton Coldfield, B74 3UF

Trustees during the Reporting Period:

	<u>Representing</u>	<u>Role</u>
Dr R G Paxton	Little Aston Lane	Chairman
Mr G Clement	Elected	Treasurer
Mrs E Paxton	Elected	Booking Secretary
Mrs L Wrack	Elected	
Mrs S Wynn	Elected – resigned 21 st September 2023	
Mrs M Pye	St Peter's Church	
Mrs P Heartland	Little Aston Bowls Club – resigned 19 th October 2023	
Mr R Walker	Little Aston Bowls Club – appointed 19 th October 2023	
Mr P Jackson	Little Aston Table Tennis Club	
Mr S King	Little Aston Tennis Club – Resigned 17 th November 2023	
Mr P Sutton	Little Aston Tennis Club – Appointed 17 th November 2023	
Mrs S Bradbury	Little Aston Pre-School	
Mrs J Cassel	Aikido	
Mr N Rankine	Tai Chi	
Mr N Rajput	Co-opted – appointed 30 th March 2023	

The Trustees are appointed in accordance with the Constitution of the Charity and consist of up to four elected members, elected at an Annual General Meeting and who may serve for up to three years prior to re-election or replacement; plus representatives from Shenstone Parish Council (the Custodian Trustee), from St. Peter's Church, from the principal regular users and from the immediate neighbours; and not more than three co-opted members.

Independent Examiner:

Shacklefords Chartered Accountants
6A Little Aston Lane
Little Aston
Sutton Coldfield
B74 3UF

1.2. Objectives and Activities

The provision of a village community hall for the use of the persons residing in the Electoral and Parochial Parish of Little Aston and the surrounding area without distinction of sex, sexual orientation, age, disability, nationality, race, religious or other opinions, including use of the property for meetings, lectures and classes or other forms of recreation and leisure time occupation in the interests of social welfare and with the object of improving the conditions of life for the said persons.

1.3. Review of Charitable Activities in 2023

Over the course of the year the trend that was seen during the previous year of declining numbers within some of the regular users appears to have steadied and in many cases membership numbers are increasing. In addition, the Hall has been able to welcome some new regular users, including regular tuition classes for under elevens and mock examination sessions, also for under elevens. We are also pleased to report that the surge that we saw during 2021 in the number of occasional bookings has continued, especially for children's parties. These additional bookings are creating a substantial increase in the income to the Hall. Elisabeth Paxton, the Booking Secretary, continues to do a wonderful job managing the bookings and showing prospective hirers around the Hall. Unfortunately, she is having to turn away an increasing number of enquiries from potential regular and occasional users because all the suitable slots within the Booking Diary are already being used by others. The proposed conversion of the loft space above the Committee Room and the Kitchen into an Additional Room is urgently needed.

Out of the seven contractors who were originally approached for quotations for the proposed Additional Room, only two responded. Their prices were very high, so high in fact that they exceeded the maximum project cost criteria for two of the grant sources from whom, it was hoped, a large proportion of the necessary funding would be forthcoming. However, Support Staffordshire kindly suggested another contractor and they came back with a much more sensible price. We have since worked with this contractor to identify sufficient cost reductions for the project to meet the lowest of the project cost criteria for the available grant sources. These cost reductions have not affected either the size or the quality of what is proposed.

Understandably, most of the potential sources of grant assistance appear to be focussed on supporting projects that are aimed at relieving issues associated with the cost of living crisis. This has resulted in many of the grant applications being rejected, including the application to the Platinum Jubilee Village Hall Fund. Shenstone Parish Council has provided a £5,000 grant and the Enovert Community Trust has promised £30,000. So far, we have secured just over half of what will be required, and we are hopeful that by the end of the summer this year, sufficient funds will have been secured for the project to go ahead in full.

The Tennis Club has continued to develop and is enjoying the benefits of all year round play and coaching on their all-weather 'clay' courts. Unfortunately, the courts do require regular watering, especially during hot and dry periods. Once the Additional Room Project is complete, it is proposed that a rainwater harvesting scheme will be implemented for supplying water to the watering systems for the Bowling Green and the Tennis Courts.

As always, the Bowling Green and its surrounds are a credit to the Club and the Green has been well used throughout the Bowling Season. Both the Bowls Club and the Tennis Club are keen to welcome new members.

Other than for the normal day to day routine maintenance, no major maintenance activities have been required during the year and this has enabled the Hall to put more money aside for the Additional Room Project.

During the year the representatives on the Management Committee from the Bowls Club and the Tennis Club resigned and have been replaced by new representatives. Also, Sarah Wynn, an elected member of the Committee, resigned. The Management Committee would like to record its grateful thanks to these former Committee members for their service and commitment to the Committee and would like to welcome the replacement representatives. It is hoped that a replacement for Sarah will be appointed at the AGM. The fact that the Hall is in a sound physical and financial position is down to the commitment of the Committee members and in particular to the efforts of the Booking Secretary and the Treasurer. The Hall and its users have benefitted greatly from their efforts.

1.4. Public Benefit

The facilities at the Village Hall are available to everyone with the aim of providing a benefit to the local community.

2. FINANCIAL REVIEW

2.1. Reserves Policy

The Village Hall controls its expenditure to ensure that its financial obligations are covered by its income stream. Activities and improvements only take place if they are financially sound. The policy is to keep approximately £10,000 in reserve to cover contingencies.

2.2. Trustees Responsibility Statement

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the Financial Statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales, the Charities Act 2011, Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed require the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity, of the incoming resources and the application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charity for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP.
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, The Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

On behalf of the Management Committee:

Trustee Richard Paxton

Date 07th February 2024

3. INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF LITTLE ASTON VILLAGE HALL

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023 set out on pages seven to nine.

3.1. 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 for this year (under Section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act)) and that an independent examination is required.

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 Charity Commission (under Section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act); and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

3.2. Basis of the 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 statements below.

3.3. 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 to 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.

Signature T D Shackleford

Date 07th February 2024

T D Shackleford FCA
Shacklefords Chartered Accountants
6A Little Aston Lane
Little Aston
Sutton Coldfield
B74 3UF

4. STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES for the Year Ended 31 December 2023

	Total Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2022 £
Incoming Resources		
Hall, Grounds & Car Park Hire		
Regular Users	33,135.70	23,127.00
Occasional Users	7,514.00	9,165.00
Shenstone Parish Council Rates Refund	179.20	414.72
Shenstone Parish Council Insurance Refund	1,232.68	1,168.49
Donations	0.00	502.86
Grants (Unrestricted)	0.00	2,667.00
Total Incoming Resources	42,061.58	37,045.07
Resources Expended		
Heating & Lighting	2,361.00	3,338.00
Water & Sewage	1,286.50	3,202.00
Rates	179.20	414.72
Insurance	1,232.68	1,168.49
Caretaker & Cleaning	7,399.94	5,976.77
Grounds & Tree Maintenance	870.00	2,880.00
Repairs & Renewals	841.77	9,069.14
Refuse Disposal	500.00	470.00
Service contracts & equipment replacement	200.00	0.00
Postage, Printing & Stationery	34.99	0.00
New Room Project (designs and fees)	3,453.60	7,100.20
Bank Charges	74.80	332.28
Miscellaneous including membership fees	710.00	105.00
Total Resources Expended	19,144.48	34,056.60
Net Incoming / (Outgoing) Resources	22,917.10	2,988.47
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS		
Total Funds Brought Forward	49,588.33	46,599.86
Total Funds Carried Forward	72,505.43	49,588.33

5. BALANCE SHEET 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Total Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2022 £
CURRENT ASSETS		
Sundry Debtors	13,414.81	4,831.62
Cash at Bank	71,285.62	44,776.71
Total	84,700.43	49,608.33
CREDITORS		
Amounts falling due within one year		
Grants for New Room Project	(10,000.00)	0.00
Sundry Creditors	(2,195.00)	(20.00)
NET CURRENT ASSETS	72,505.43	49,588.33
FUNDS		
Unrestricted funds	72,505.43	49,588.33
Restricted Funds	0.00	0.00
TOTAL FUNDS	72,505.43	49,588.33

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on ... 26th February 2024 ...
and were signed on its behalf by:

Trustee ... Richard Paxton ...

6. NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the Year Ended 31 December 2023

6.1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

6.1.1. Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard 102, the Charities Act 2011 and the requirements of the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities (effective 1st January 2019).

6.1.2. Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included on the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

6.1.3. Resources expended

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end date are noted as a commitment but not accrued as expenditure.

6.1.4. Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

6.1.5. Fund Accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

6.2. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration, expenses or other benefits paid during the year ended 31 December 2023 or during the year ended 31 December 2022.

6.3. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

Unrestricted Funds			Restricted Funds		
At 1 Jan 2023	Net Movement in Funds	At 31 Dec 2023	At 1 Jan 2023	Net Movement in Funds	At 31 Dec 2023
49,588.33	22,917.10	72,505.43	0.00	0.00	0.00