

Chairmans Report 2023/24

Usage:

The Trustees are pleased that the hall is hired for many activities each week. Hires for a typical week are Yoga, Japanese Fencing, Carpet Bowls, Mature Circuits, and Dance lessons.

Social Sew and So's continues on a monthly basis. As does the Harkstead Market. As of February 2024, the Hall Trustees no longer run the Market. It is now a private hire, so to speak. We are very grateful to Kim for taking this on and we wish her success in this venture.

Many Birthdays celebrations were held here during 2023/24. With many emails indicating that it saved them having to tidy the house to accommodate a party - and then cleaning/tidying afterwards too! Common Ground utilised the hall and Eastern Angles were in last week (5 April).

With the pub still closed - Harkstead Church Heritage has taken on Quiz nights etc here. Which has helped them raise funds too. A monthly book club has continued.

Repairs:

Various repairs have taken place over the course of the year. It is fair to say, that due to perseverance, these have happened. Getting trades people to turn up to quote - is difficult. Common themes are that it's too far out of the way, or the job is too small for it to be worth their while. And, if they do quote, they don't seem to quote for the work WE want them to do, only what THEY want to do - frustrating and difficult in equal measures. The Grapevine recently carried the latest updates regarding the Velux leak: Following a (second) visit on Friday 16 February, from a Velux-registered installer (having erected a scaffolding tower and brought a replacement window to site) we have been advised:

"[I was] unable to replace the Velux window as the solar panels are fitted too close, meaning that the tiles cannot be removed" but we are pleased to report that adjustments were made to the flashing, which we hope will stop or minimise the current leak.

However, it remains that the Velux skylight needs replacing and so this is our intention but it is going to be a larger job than first envisaged. We (the Village Hall Trustees) will now review options.

Any internal remedial works/redcoration will follow completion of the skylight works.

Quotes have been sought with numerous declining to quote due to the solar panel concerns, ie there are not many tradesman prepared to remove the panels and refit them due to the liability of them not working when placed back up. Given the solar panels currently provide 28% of the income - The Trustees are concerned too if they don't work when they are refitted.

Finances:

Without stealing the thunder of our Treasurer, the hall costs approx £7k to run per year. Income from hire is approx £6k. Thankfully the solar panels bring in approx £2k. As you can see, there is about £1k per year 'surplus'.

I'd describe the funds as stable/treading water - however, with the volume of repairs and enhancements we are preparing for, the funds will be drained very quickly. The Trustees are considering the future and other revenue streams.

Reality check:

Harkstead is not a growing community. It has disproportionately fewer residents in the working age range and a higher percentage of older people. The majority of those in work do not work nearby. Social and economic changes have resulted in the Village Hall being the 'hub' of activity, to it being 'there'. A recent survey (November 2023) undertaken by the Parish Council and residents were invited to feedback their priorities for the parish over the coming years. Residents were offered 13 local topics and were invited to list their top 5. They were also invited to add their own suggestions. From around 123 households, there were 26 responses (21.14% return). One return to the Parish Council - the Hall was mentioned. The Parish Council advises that the return suggested 'A hope that more people would get involved.' As returns were anonymous, further insight cannot be gleaned. The Trustees agree with and appreciate the 'hope', however, village life post the COVID pandemic, is not as it was and it is noted that there is no real effort made by any age group to turn back the clock and make the Hall the 'hub', just an expectation that someone will do it for them.

I thank my fellow Trustees for their support this year.

Sarah Donnison
Chairman (2023-24)

Charity Name Harkstead Village Hall (CIO)	No (if any) 1157106
---	-------------------------------

CC16a

Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period start date 01-Apr-23	To	Period end date 31-Mar-24
------------------------	--------------------------------	----	------------------------------

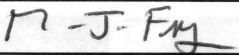

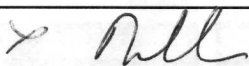
Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Hire of Hall and Equipment	6,405	-	-	6,405	6,651
Farmers' Market + Farmers' Market Raffle	990	-	-	990	855
Auction	-	-	-	-	-
Events	-	-	-	-	549
Income from Solar Pannels	2,476	-	-	2,476	2,400
Refreshments	324	-	-	324	294
COIF Charities Deposit Fund	362	-	-	362	130
Donations & Gifts	-	-	-	-	50
Government Grant	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	10,557	-	-	10,557	10,928
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	10,557	-	-	10,557	10,928
A3 Payments					
Light and Heating	3,533	-	-	3,533	2,233
Repairs and Maintenance (inc. cleaning & gardening)	1,072	-	-	1,072	2,339
Wages	422	-	-	422	683
Insurance	856	-	-	856	813
Water and Sewage	598	-	-	598	533
Rates	44	-	-	44	82
Licences	100	-	-	100	271
Events	-	-	-	-	-
Broadband	128	-	-	128	-
Sundry Expenses	10	-	-	10	18
Donations & Gifts	-	-	-	-	-
Capital Expenditure	97	-	-	97	-
Sub total	6,858	-	-	6,858	6,972
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
Tables	-	-	-	-	-
COIF Charities Ethical Investment Fund	-	-	-	-	-
Solar Pannels	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	6,858	-	-	6,858	6,972
Net of receipts/(payments)	3,698	-	-	3,698	3,956
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	16,058	-	-	16,058	12,102
Cash funds this year end	19,756.53	-	-	19,757	16,058

Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Cash	436	-	-
	Barclays Current Account	11,515	-	-
	COIF	7,806	-	-
	Total cash funds	19,756.56	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
B2 Other monetary assets	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
	COIF Charities Ethical Investment Fund	Unrestricted	24,000	53,475
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
Hon. Treasurer		MICHAEL FRY	3/10/24
Chairman		S DONNISON	28/9/2024
Independent Examiner		JEREMY BUTENHUIS	23/9/2024