

Buckland Monachorum Village Hall Trustees' Annual Report for 2023-2024

Chairman's Report

Since the last AGM, I have led the Committee as best I can and I am happy to continue in the role for the forthcoming year if required. I know I repeat myself when I say that I would like to thank both Nigel and Tim for their work as Secretary and Treasurer, and for the rest of the Committee for their support, but it truly is heartfelt.

The Bookings & Calendar continue to tick over nicely and it is nice to see the number of bookings continuing to keep the Hall busy. However, our monthly Market & Coffee Shop has been a real disappointment at times which has led me to question if it's worth doing anymore, seeing as we get so little support from the wider Village populace. Both Claire and I, and Nicola, invest quite a bit of time and money organising the event and it is sad when so few people attend. A subject which needs discussion.

I really hoped to have created more evening events in the Hall but running the Drama Group and RAF Harrowbeer Weekends have eaten into my time. We have though, run three (I think) Quiz Nights in the Drake Manor which have proved very popular and these will continue later this year.

Having finalised converting the Hall Charity to a CIO. The Land Registry have still to confirm the registration of our title to the plot on which the Hall stands. The Land Reg wheels turn very slowly. Also, I still must formally close the old Village Hall Charity.

Treasurer's Report

- For the year 1st April 2023 – 31st March 2024, the accounts show a loss of £409. However, we had £1400 of debtors at year end, so effectively this was a £1k surplus.
- This is not as good as it sounds because as a “one-off” we are one of Yelverton Co-op's Charities of choice this year and our income from them was £1130. While we should get similar in 2024-5, it will not recur thereafter.
- Further to this, we received £1388 from a new regular user, Devon Dance. Without this, we would have made a loss, - largely because income from most other regular users has not risen by the 20-30% we needed to fund the doubling of utility bills.
- The Snooker club has bucked that trend with its 26% rise in income: we are very grateful to Phil Bennett for his continued work in attracting new players and setting reasonable usage fees.
- The accounts show a more than doubling of our electricity bill from £2476 to £5220, with only 9 months of the year under the new increased tariff. Regrettably, where our previous supplier charged us 5% VAT, the current supplier charged 20% VAT on all but 2% of our usage. We are continuing to try to claw some of this back, but the current supplier is stricter in applying VAT to all hire income in months where daily usage exceeds 33kWh [6 months of the year], where the old supplier just viewed us as a charity for all usage.
- The new electricity contract from 1st July 2024 drops our electricity prices to around 75-80% of current price [with reductions in unit tariffs but increase in daily standing charge]. The

best price available was to stay with our current supplier, EDF. I would expect our electricity charges to be around £4500 for the current year.

- Meanwhile our water supplier has just announced an increase in our monthly price from £32.50 to £51.50 per month, which seems to reflect increased usage as well as increased unit charges.
- Despite the likely decrease in electricity costs, this will be far less than the previous year's increase, in a climate where other costs continue to rise. Our hire charges therefore cannot decrease.
- Two of us have, between us, attended all 8 meetings in the recent Devon Communities Together Enterprising Halls programme, which has allowed us some ideas and benchmarking.
- We are currently trying to raise money to cover a permanent repair to the leaking roof, following the successful temporary repair.
- We are ambitious to future proof the hall by renewing windows and doors, improving external wall and roof insulation and addressing damp issues.
- These improvements will be costly. We are slowly building up a learning curve in applying for grants. We are very grateful to Martyn Williams for his facilitation and support in this.

Adoption of the Accounts (copy enclosed) was proposed by Stephen Fryer, seconded by Tim Price, and agreed by all present.

Reports of the User Groups:

Beehive Pre-School Playgroup

- Although costs have continued to rise the Government have now finally invested in the early years sector and the voucher system is in line with our hourly rate at last. As well as enabling working parents of 2-year-olds to claim 15 hours of vouchers, we have seen an increase in enquiries and subsequent bookings.
- As a result, after a slow start to the year we are now full and are taking bookings for Spring 2025. We currently have 33 children attending Beehive weekly, with a maximum of 16 per day. Although we could have more children per day, I cap it at 16 to enable us to provide the maximum amount of care to each child. We are also restricted to 10 children on a Monday and Wednesday afternoons as we are in the Richard Mabey room.
- Ten of our children will be starting School this September, so we will be holding an Open Morning on the 15th of June 2024 to hopefully replenish our numbers ready for the Autumn Term.
- We held a sponsored cycle in April and raised the staggering amount of £802, which we spent on some new tricycles and an outdoor playhouse.
- This last term before the Summer holidays is usually our busiest, as we have transition sessions at the school once a week for the children starting in September, we also take the children swimming at the school pool, (weather permitting), we have Sports Day and

finally we finish the term with our yearly trip, which this year takes us to Collytown Stud in Bere Alston, which ties up with our theme of the Farm & Farm Animals.

- We would like to thank the Village Hall Trustees for their continued support and encouragement, and we would like to thank Shane for keeping the hall so clean and for doing the odd repair job on the toys when needed!

Drama Group

Stephen reported on a disappointing year with the cancellation of their main event due to cast sickness. The search is on for a new play though finding the right script is proving demanding..

Art Group

Nichola reported that the revived annual exhibition held in conjunction with other art groups went very well, with the potential for future new members. The committee were thanked for their assistance in setting up and storing of the display boards.

Snooker Club

In a phone call prior to the meeting Phil said that it had been a particularly good year, as evidenced by the comments in the Treasurer's report, with income up 26% on the previous year.. He was thanked again for all the hard work that has ensured this success.

Parish Council

No report.

Election of Village Hall Charity Trustees

a) Officers:

Chairman - Stephen Fryer was proposed by Nigel Rendle, seconded by Mandy Robinson, and approved.

Treasurer – Tim Alexander was proposed by Stephen Fryer, seconded by Nigel Rendle and approved.

Secretary - Nigel Rendle was proposed by Stephen Fryer, seconded by Jane Beard, and approved.

b) User Group Nominated Members

Beehive Pre- School Playgroup – Jane Beard
Drama Group – Stephen Fryer
Art Group – Nichola Williams
Snooker – Phil Bennett

Re-election en-bloc was proposed by Tim Price, seconded by Tim Alexander, and approved.

c) Management Committee Members

Mandy Robinson was proposed by Stephen Fryer, seconded by Nigel Rendle and approved.

Tim Price was proposed by Stephen Fryer, seconded by Mandy Robinson, and approved.

Our contractor Shane Wilson was once again thanked for his tremendous service during the year and reconfirmed as Caretaker/ Groundsman.

9. Honorary Examiner of the Accounts

Richard Mabey [a past Treasurer] has confirmed that he is happy to continue in this role.

Buckland Monachorum Village Hall Annual Accounts

1st April 2023 - 31st March 2024

Buckland Monachorum Village Hall
Annual Accounts Year Ended 31st March 2024

Charity Number 1200054

Income	2024	£	2023	£
Hire of / Use of Hall				
BMVH Snooker Club	1239.50		1113.58	
Buckland Art Group	471.00		868.00	
Buckland Beehive	4453.41		4766.50	
Buckland Monachorum Parish Council	62.00		105.00	
Charleston Friendship Cafe	432.00		420.00	
Creative Writing Class	0.00		22.00	
Drama Group	555.00		1230.00	
Keep Fit	426.00		705.00	
Ladies Fitness	120.00		521.25	
Dance Practice	34.00		205.00	
Devon Dance	1388.25		0.00	
Private Hire	608.25		1050.50	
	9789.41			11006.83
Other Income				
Coffee Mornings	494.55		455.82	
Bank Interest - CCLA 2023 Co-op 2024	181.79		268.11	
June Fair	240.00		210.00	
Equipment sales	0.00		300.00	
Fundraising income - Co-op	1130.43		0.00	
Fundraising income - Quiz nights	498.00		191.30	
	2544.77			1425.23
Private Donations				
Drama Group	599.00		300.00	
Individuals	110.00		300.00	
	709.00			600.00
TOTAL INCOME	13043.18		13032.06	
Expenditure				
Utilities				
British Gas <i>Gas</i>	99.18		96.64	
EDF Energy [1444.41] + Corona Energy [1666.41] <i>Electricity</i>	5220.34		2475.77	
Pennon Water Services <i>Water</i>	381.50		360.00	
Skylight Broadband <i>Internet</i>	345.60		345.60	
	6046.62			3278.01
Cleaning and Maintenance				
Contractor	3960.00		3630.00	
	3960.00			3630.00
Annual Expenses				
Allied Westminster (Insurance Services) Ltd - <i>Annual Insurance</i>	1088.39		1016.42	
Chubb Fire and Security - <i>Fire extinguisher service and check</i>	46.00		45.00	
PPL PRS - <i>Music performance license</i>	291.94		135.72	
Wix.Com - <i>Calendar booking program</i>	147.93		133.53	
CCD Number 1 - <i>Local Community Halls Association</i>	50.00		0.00	
The Play Inspection Company - <i>Outdoor play area check</i>	210.00		210.00	
DACB - <i>Annual Garden Waste collection fee</i>	107.00		40.00	
PAT testing - <i>Electrical equipment testing</i>	0.00		105.00	
	1941.26			1685.67
Fundraising Expenses				
Devon Community Trust courses	50.00		0.00	
Leaflet printing	0.00		75.00	
	50.00			75.00
Cleaning Products and Minor Repairs / Expenses				
Cleaning Supplies	365.92		284.54	
Minor repairs and renewals	357.21		174.14	
	723.13			458.68
New Equipment				
Floor polisher / stripper	0.00		260.00	
Microwave oven	0.00		69.98	
Cabinet cupboard for servery	0.00		105.00	
Christmas lights	0.00		34.93	
				469.91
Major work				
Alan Hughes t/a Totally Wired - New heaters and Lighting	0.00		368.03	
NSD Construction - Roof inspection and basic repair	360.00		0.00	
Tree safety inspection	371.16		565.92	
	731.16			933.95
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	13452.17		10531.22	
In year Surplus / (Deficit)	408.99			2500.84

Buckland Monachorum Village Hall Charity Number 1200054
Annual Accounts Year Ended 31st March 2024

	2024 £	2023 £
RECONCILIATION AND MOVEMENT OF FUNDS		
Opening Balance	20158.50	17657.66
Surplus / Deficit in Year	408.99	2500.84
Closing Balance	19749.51	20158.50
Represented by:		
Barclays bank balance	0.00	14819.73
Co-op Business account	2804.77	2945.30
Co-op Savings account	16841.27	2300.00
Cash	103.47	93.47
TOTALS	19749.51	20158.50

Cash balance includes Raffle and Coffee floats of £30 each - total £60

Notes

1) These accounts look less favourable than our actual position as we had no outstanding debtors at 31/3/23, whereas this year we are owed £1305.11, (similar to the position at 31/3/22). Last year I suggested we should therefore construe it as a £1.5k surplus and this year I would therefore suggest we view it as a £1k surplus.

2) £1k surplus sounds relaxing, - but bear in mind that we were given more than that by the Co-op. While we will get a similar amount from them in the next financial year, we won't get more after that. We were also fortunate to receive £1388 hire charges from the Dance Group, but this has come to an end.

*I have examined the accounts
and Bank Statements and find
all in order.
Richard Munday.*