

Annual Report for The Mere Lecture Hall Trust
For the Year Ending 30th June 2022

(Charity Registration Number 202620)

1 Administrative Details

Registered Office:

Newport House
Salisbury Street
Mere
Wiltshire
BA12 6HE

Correspondence Address:

Chris Wood (Treasurer)
Swainsford Fish Farm
Woodlands Road
Mere
Warminster
Wiltshire
BA12 6BY

Trustees as of 30th June 2022:

Mr A Bristow	Mr S Burroughs	Mr Gareth James
Mrs D Potter	Mr P Platt-Higgins	Mr A Rees
Mr C Rutter (chairman)	Mrs H Watts	Mr Simon Rutter
Mr B Watts	Mrs M White	Mr C Wood (treasurer)

Number of Active Trustees at Year End: 12

Custodian Trustee:

Legal Trustee Limited
Company registration number 00195819
C/O Rutters Solicitors
2 Bimport
Shaftesbury
Dorset
SP7 8AY

Trust Document:

The Trust was created by Deed dated Saturday 22nd November 1924

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2 Structure, Governance and Management

The Trust is governed by up to 25 Administrative Trustees, with the backing of a Custodian Trustee. Six Trustees are especially representative of the Christian presence in the town and are elected by their own churches each for a period of three years. The rest are self-perpetuating, elected by the remaining trustees for an indefinite term, being gathered from the local community resident within 13 miles' radius.

"The Administrative Trustees shall manage or superintend the management of the trust properties with power to deal therewith as if they were absolute owners thereof." They thus have wide powers.

The Trustees currently meet once or twice a year. They annually elect a management committee to manage the day-to-day business of the trust, consisting of a chairman, secretary, treasurer and four others plus a hall manager. They also appoint a Grants' sub-committee of up to 5 trustees. The management committee meets as required, but usually 4 – 6 times a year. The Trustees approve the annual accounts, set the level of grants for the year, receive and discuss the management committee's report and decide items of policy.

The Trustees employ the services of a Caretaker/Cleaner for the Lecture Hall building. Although they are at liberty to employ any other servant if they wish, all the office holders are also trustees and act in a voluntary capacity. From time to time, they employ professional help as required.

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3 Public Benefit Statement

The Primary Objective of the Trust is to provide a meeting place for the community of Mere and surrounding area for non-commercial use. This enables the various groups that make up the community to meet and develop spiritually, physically and socially.

The Hall is available to all sections and groups within the community although there are restrictions on use based on the requirements as set out by the original Trust Deed and the limitations of the building.

The Grants provided to the local community require the benefit to be used within an 8-mile radius of Mere and the purposes of the grant must be consistent with the objectives of the Trust as set out in the original Trust Deed.

None of the Trustees receive any benefit, direct or indirectly from the Trust.

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4 Objectives and Activities

"The objects of the Trust are the promotion of the spiritual, moral, intellectual or social welfare of the inhabitants of Mere in the County of Wiltshire and elsewhere, along lines not inconsistent with non-conforming Christianity, or the promotion of temperance, or the promotion of similar charitable objects elsewhere."

To this end the "Lecture Hall" building, a main 100-seater hall and stage, two smaller halls and various ancillary spaces, was given to the Trust in 1924. In many ways it serves as a community hall. At the same time various properties were also given to the trust as endowment for the Hall to ensure its spiritual freedom and financial independence.

The Trustees maintain the Hall as an attractive and suitable venue for many local activities as a benefit to the community. One of the halls is now a coffee bar and there are modern toilets and disabled facilities. The rooms are offered for rent at a subsidised rate to the community and at a commercial rate for commercial purposes.

The trustees endeavour to make small grants each year to community organisations and continue to explore opportunities to promote the objects of the Trust.

To maintain a viable level of income, the trustees maintain, manage and let a number of properties, both residential and commercial.

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5 Achievements and Financial Review

Having been closed for certain periods during the pandemic the Mere Lecture Hall is now being well used and the Trust is now able to meet the primary objective of providing a suitable venue for the people of Mere and district.

The Trust continued to do various works to maintain the properties the Trust owns and manages. The Trust endeavours to keep abreast of current legislation to ensure all the properties are within the Health and Safety and building regulations.

Considerable work was done to repair the roof to the Lecture Hall itself.

The Gables Ground Floor also known as the Coffee Saloon which was let to Gilyard Scarth who are the Trust's letting agents has now been let to Woolley & Wallis with a new six-year lease and they will continue on as the Trust's letting agents.

Various other repairs and renewals have been made especially to Newport House and Courtfield.

The property known as Homelea has been fully refurbished and a new tenant will be moving in August as of 30th June 2022, all the other trust properties are let.

No grants were given during the year ending 30th June 2022.

Two long standing trustees have regretfully had to resign their trusteeships and we thank them for their service.

Attempts will be made to find new trustees.

Final Signed A/Cs.

Unaudited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30th June 2022

for

Mere Lecture Hall Trust

Mere Lecture Hall Trust

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for the Year Ended 30th June 2022**

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Mere Lecture Hall Trust
General Information
for the Year Ended 30th June 2022

PROPRIETOR:

C R C Wood

ADDRESS:

Newport House
Salisbury Street
Mere
Warminster
Wiltshire
BA12 6HE

ACCOUNTANT:

Gordon Chubb
542 Bishops Caundle
Sherborne
Dorset
DT9 5ND

Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 30th June 2022

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF MERE LECTURE HALL TRUST

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 30th June 2022.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiners

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) 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 procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (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 Commissioners. 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 I do not express an audit opinion on the view given in the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements have not been met:-

- 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.



Gordon Chubb
542 Bishops Caundle Sherborne
Dorset DT9 5ND

Date: 29-9-2022

Mere Lecture Hall Trust
Trading and Profit and Loss Account
for the Year Ended 30th June 2022

	2022		2021	
	£	£	£	£
Income				
The Gables - ground floor	6,862		6,500	
The Gables - Drama Room	400		400	
The Gables - Top floor flat	6,997		6,678	
Hartfield	9,540		3,180	
Courtfield	4,800		4,800	
Newport House - Maisonette 1	5,700		5,700	
Newport House - Maisonette 2	7,920		7,125	
Newport House - Office	1,560		1,620	
Town & Country House - office	5,000		5,000	
Town & Country House - snooker room	921		637	
Homelea	-		6,722	
Truscott	7,500		7,500	
Lecture hall	4,161		718	
Garage	480		480	
		61,841		57,060
Property direct costs				
Repairs to property - Gables	258		85	
Repairs to property-Courtfield	2,846		265	
Repairs to property				
- Newport House	3,075		484	
Repairs to property - Truscott	90		323	
Repairs to property - Homelea	4,861		85	
Repairs to property - Lecture Hall	15,263		6,212	
Repairs to property-Hartfield	120		66,987	
		26,513		74,441
GROSS PROFIT/(LOSS)		35,328		(17,381)
Establishment costs				
Security	862		476	
Management fees	5,271		5,262	
Rates, water, & insurance	6,229		4,913	
Cleaning	1,836		1,107	
Heating & lighting	1,572		1,883	
		15,770		13,641
		19,558		(31,022)
Administrative expenses				
Telephone	328		315	
Post and stationery	353		-	
Advertising	50		110	
Sundry expenses	115		187	
Accountancy	650		650	
Other professional fees	120		-	
Donations & grants	(3)		-	
		1,613		1,262
Carried forward		17,945		(32,284)

Mere Lecture Hall Trust
Trading and Profit and Loss Account
for the Year Ended 30th June 2022

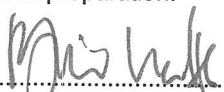
	2022		2021	
	£	£	£	£
Brought forward		17,945		(32,284)
Depreciation				
Improvements to property	696		696	
Plant and machinery	<u>199</u>		<u>234</u>	
		895		930
NET PROFIT/(LOSS)		<u><u>17,050</u></u>		<u><u>(33,214)</u></u>


Mere Lecture Hall Trust

Balance Sheet
30th June 2022

	Notes	2022 £	2021 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets	1	191,263	191,829
CURRENT ASSETS			
Trade debtors		107	497
Deposits held by Gilyard Scarth		5,337	5,407
Bank current account		29,038	11,701
Cash in hand		<u>20</u>	<u>84</u>
		<u>34,502</u>	<u>17,689</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Trade creditors		111	244
Deposits received from tenants		5,337	5,407
Accrued expenses		650	1,250
Loan - Peter Platt		10,000	10,000
Loan - Chris Wood		<u>10,000</u>	<u>10,000</u>
		<u>26,098</u>	<u>26,901</u>
		<u>8,404</u>	<u>(9,212)</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>199,667</u>	<u>182,617</u>
FINANCED BY			
CAPITAL ACCOUNT	2	<u>199,667</u>	<u>182,617</u>

We approve the financial statements and confirm that we have made available all relevant records and information for their preparation.


.....
Chairman


.....
Treasurer

Date: 29-9-2022

Mere Lecture Hall Trust

**Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 30th June 2022**

1. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Freehold property £	Improvements to property £	Plant and machinery £	Fixtures and fittings £	Totals £
COST					
At 1st July 2021	159,462	34,803	2,391	2,179	198,835
Additions	-	-	329	-	329
At 30th June 2022	<u>159,462</u>	<u>34,803</u>	<u>2,720</u>	<u>2,179</u>	<u>199,164</u>
DEPRECIATION					
At 1st July 2021	-	3,872	955	2,179	7,006
Charge for year	-	696	199	-	895
At 30th June 2022	-	<u>4,568</u>	<u>1,154</u>	<u>2,179</u>	<u>7,901</u>
NET BOOK VALUE					
At 30th June 2022	<u>159,462</u>	<u>30,235</u>	<u>1,566</u>	-	<u>191,263</u>
At 30th June 2021	<u>159,462</u>	<u>30,931</u>	<u>1,436</u>	-	<u>191,829</u>

2. CAPITAL ACCOUNT

	2022 £	£	2021 £	£
Brought forward	182,617		215,831	
Add				
Net profit	<u>17,050</u>		-	
	199,667		215,831	
Less				
Net loss	-		<u>33,214</u>	
		<u>199,667</u>		<u>182,617</u>
		<u>199,667</u>		<u>182,617</u>

Financial Statements
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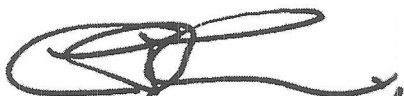
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