

Trustees' Annual Report to the Charity Commission for the period 1 January 2024 – 31 December 2024

Charity name: **THORVERTON MEMORIAL HALL**

Charity registration number: 203778

Objectives and Activities: to provide & maintain a village hall for the use of the inhabitants of the Parish of Thorverton without distinction of political, religious or other opinions, including the use of meetings lectures and classes, and for other forms of recreation and leisure-time occupation, with the objective of improving the condition of life for the villagers.

The Governing Document is the Scheme dated 26th April 1977 as amended by a resolution dated 13th October 2023. This resolution made a number of minor administrative changes which were accepted by the Charity Commission on 7th November 2023.

Thorverton Memorial Hall Committee of Management is comprised of up to ten elected Trustees, plus two co-opted Trustees, as well as one representative nominated by the Parish Council and up to five others nominated by recognised local organisations.

Trustees are appointed or reappointed annually at the Annual General Meeting held in April.

In 2024 our Trustees were the following:

Penny Wiles, Michael Baldwin, Peter Marshall, Jan Wills (until 18th April 2024), Sarah Addicott, Andrew Saunders, Stephanie Gounaris Shannon, Emmie Payne Cook, Noel Tancock, Carolyn Hooker (from 18th April), Bryony Uglow (Parish Council representative from 27th June)

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

Increasing the use of the hall

We are conscious that we have a well-used and attractive hall. A number of hirers, some of whom come from quite far afield, have expressed their appreciation of the facilities together with the hall's appealing setting. In the last Annual Report I drew attention to the fact the hall's use was increasing – this trend not only continued throughout 2024 but actually accelerated with an increase in both number of hours the hall was used as well as hire income which rose significantly by 20%. We've had occasions where a meeting takes place in the hall at the same time as a fitness class on the lawn, and one activity ending just as the next one is about to start. We see TMH very much as a resource for the village used for significant events in the lives of villagers – Christening parties, wedding receptions and wakes

Carrying out a number of improvements to the hall.

In terms of the building we completed a number of improvements identified by the Committee as priorities back in late 2022: a new sign at the front of the hall, which is an attractive addition to the streetscape as well as drawing attention to the hall, upgraded wifi and some external painting. Our long-desired capital improvement of improving & revamping the accessible cloakroom, which had been put on hold for several years due to the high

prices quoted by building contractors, was finally completed in the early autumn of 2024 following our receiving a much more reasonable quote.

Drawing up new policies

A new Safeguarding policy was approved at a Committee meeting on 23rd May 2024. New Food Safety Guidelines were drawn up in collaboration with the kitchen team and these were approved by Mid Devon District Council in May.

Activities & events in Thorverton Memorial Hall in 2024

The activities that take place in the hall are a mix of classes organised by third parties, a space for the school to use in wet weather, as well as a stream of bookings for parties of all kinds, and events organised by Thorverton Memorial Hall.

Regular events included monthly Film Nights with a menu of popular and more niche films eg foreign language films. Cygnet Theatre returned in July to perform 'The Comedy of Errors' and luckily the fine weather meant that this time the performance was able to take place on the lawn. Other events included a Skittles evening in the Autumn which raised over £400 for the local branch of the Royal British Legion. Monthly Big Breakfast and Saturday Market mornings continued to be popular, with the stalwart team consistently producing delicious breakfasts – the team has been going strong for a quarter of a century.

In terms of events put on in the hall, they don't come much bigger than the Biennial pop festival 'Thorfest' which took place on a wonderfully hot day in September. Putting on an event of this size involved a great deal of hard work coupled with close collaboration between TMH and the Thorfest organisers. The TMH role was principally to ensure the necessary licences, insurances, and risk assessments, first aider were in place and that the bar was staffed and bar drinks sorted. Thorfest attracted around 1200 over the course of the day and evening and was a massive success. TMH was one of the village beneficiaries of the funds raised by this event, the grant of £4000 we received going towards the cost of the accessible cloakroom upgrade. We recognise we are extremely fortunate to be supported financially in this way by local organisations such as Thorfest.

Financial Review

Throughout 2024 the TMH finances continued to operate at a healthy level, again as in 2023 thanks to the level of bookings and events held in the hall.

Apart from the cost of the accessible cloakroom (part funded from our grant from Thorfest), all other improvement costs were funded by TMH's own resources.

Conscious of the increase in running costs such as utilities, cleaning & gardening and other fixed costs, in the last year we have taken steps to reduce our costs whenever the opportunity cropped up. A number of examples include cutting back on the frequency of waste collections, & making sure through liaising with Utility Aid that we get the best deal possible on our energy costs. Our relationship with Devon Communities

Together, which is affiliated to Action with Communities in Rural England, has stood us in good financial stead– in late 2024 they advised us on our Music Licence renewal and helped save a significant sum in the process.

Future plans

Looking ahead, we will be continuing to look for savings in our running costs and also looking at our income, & considering some modest increases in some of our hire charges so that the hall continues to be financially buoyant. We will be asking ourselves such broad questions as: given the increase in bookings, what changes are needed to manage the hall bookings & events? What works well and what doesn't work quite so well? What events should we be organising & how best to consult with the village about this? What changes to the TMH website should be considered?

It takes a village to raise a child, so the saying goes – in our experience it takes a village to run a busy hall. We are fortunate to be able to rely on the help of many villagers, not least our hard working Trustees, to get stuck in to so many aspects of the managing the hall and for helping ensure it remains a key village asset.

The Trustees declare that they have approved the Trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's Trustees

Penny Wiles

Chair of Trustees

5/5/25



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Thorverton Memorial Hall

No (if any)
203778

CC16a

Receipts and payments accounts

For the period
from

Period start date
01/01/2024

To

Period end date
31/12/2024

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					
Hall Hire	10,836	-	-	10,836	9,002
TMH Events	1,730	-	-	1,730	1,729
Bar & Kitchen Takings	13,307	-	-	13,307	16,376
Electricity Generation	753	-	-	753	887
Grants/Donations	4,000	-	-	4,000	250
Interest	357	-	-	357	408
Miscellaneous Income	3,623	-	-	3,623	3,168
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	34,606	-	-	34,606	31,820
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	34,606	-	-	34,606	31,820
A3 Payments					
Cleaning/Gardening/Painting.	4,972	-	-	4,972	3,524
New Amenities	8,202	-	-	8,202	5,457
Hall Maintenance	2,804	-	-	2,804	16,036
Event Costs	10,282	-	-	10,282	11,004
Utilities & Website	2,931	-	-	2,931	2,146
Insurance/Licences	2,383	-	-	2,383	1,963
Miscellaneous	883	-	-	883	1,439
Donation	100	-	-	100	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	32,557	-	-	32,557	41,569
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	32,557	-	-	32,557	41,569
Net of receipts/(payments)	2,049	-	-	2,049	- 9,749
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	33,319	-	-	33,319	43,068
Cash funds this year end	35,368	-	-	35,368	33,319

Section B 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				
	Current Account	732	-	-
	Savings Account	33,953	-	-

Cash	683	-	
Total cash funds	35,368	-	-

(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))

OK

OK

OK

Unrestricted funds

Restricted funds

Endowment funds

to nearest £

to nearest £

to nearest £

Details

B2 Other monetary assets

	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-

Details

B3 Investment assets

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

Details

B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

Details

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

PAWiles	PENELOPE WILES	7/5/25

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

Thorverton Memorial Hall

On accounts for the year ended

31 December 2024

Charity no
(if any)

203778

Set out on pages

1 and 2

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/12/2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below *) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:



Date:

7/5/25

Name:

Stuart Crebo

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):

FCIB: CF:

Address:

Victoria Orchard

Thorverton, Devon

EX5 5NU

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

No areas of concern to disclose