

NORTHAM VILLAGE HALL TRUST

Registered Charity No 269218

ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31st DECEMBER 2024

**B A Taxation Services
113 Shakespeare Tower
Barbican
London
EC2Y 8DR**

NORTHAM VILLAGE HALL TRUST

Registered Charity No 269218

**Contents of the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 December 2024**

- **Trustees' Report**
- **Statement of Income and Expenditure**
- **Statement of Assets and Liabilities**
- **Breakdown of Fundraising Income, Grants, and Special Project Expenditure**
- **Independent Examiner's Report**

NORTHIAM VILLAGE HALL TRUST

Frewen Close, Main Street, Northiam, East Sussex, TN31 6RA
Registered Charity Number 269218

Report of the Trustees for the financial year ended 31 December 2024

The land on which Northiam village hall now stands was purchased by the community in 1971 from two local landowners/farmers. A Trust was established at that time to hold and manage the land, and to build the hall when time and funds permitted. Construction of buildings started in 1975, funded by the sale of the land on which the six Frewen Close bungalows now stand. By 2000, the original building had been extended to provide additional meeting rooms and storage space, and the whole facility is now believed to be one of the largest village halls in East Sussex.

The buildings and surrounding land are now held in trust by the Charity Commission's Official Custodian, on behalf of the local community. A management committee (Northiam Village Hall Trust) has responsibility for the day-to-day running of the hall, governed by the Trust Deed established in 1971. This set the initial goal of providing a village hall for use by the community, with the ongoing objective of improving the conditions of life for Northiam residents. The Trust is a registered charity, regulated by the Charities Commission, and answerable to the local community each year at an Annual General Meeting. Trustees are appointed each year at the AGM, either elected by the community, nominated by local groups that use the hall, or co-opted into the Trust. At the 2024 AGM the following 12 Trustees were appointed:

Keith Whiting (Chair); Christine Palmer (Secretary); Sylvia Wickens (Bookings Secretary); Bernie Bone (Treasurer); Margaret Davies; John Fenton; Sarah Giles; John Palmer; Richard Robinson; Sandra Robinson; Pete Sargent, and Sue Schlesinger. Sandra Robinson has subsequently retired from the Trust.

The Trust generates its income from rentals paid by hall users, supplemented by donations and fund-raising activities. Day-to-day running costs absorb most of the income but, where there is a surplus, this is used to make improvements to the hall. Where appropriate, grants from other bodies are accessed by the Trust, but all monies raised, whatever the source, are used in maintaining or improving the village hall and its facilities.

For the financial year ended 31 Dec 2024 our income from hiring the halls was £16,622, broadly comparable with £16,695 in 2023, although some way short of our pre-pandemic income in 2019 of £19,914. Other regular income of £3,735 and fund-raising income of £5,892 gave us total "trading" income of £26,249 (£23,649 in 2023). Day to day running costs of £17,941 were an increase over 2023 (£17,362), reflecting higher energy and cleaning costs. After grant income and expenditure on special projects, our overall "trading surplus" for 2024 was £9,680, compared with a deficit of £597 for 2023. The 2023 deficit arose because the £3,009 cost of installing cavity wall insulation occurred in late 2023, whereas the grant monies that funded that project were not received until 2024.

Improvements to the hall and the facilities it provides are funded through a combination of our trading surplus, along with the cash resources built up over previous years. To enhance these funds, where appropriate, we seek grant assistance from third parties.

Using all these sources, we have continued our programme of steady improvement to the hall facilities. During 2024 the following projects have been undertaken, at a cost of £17,638:

A. With financial assistance from third parties:

- We have installed solar panels with a battery storage system. The work also involved replacing the kitchen back door to improve access to the electrical control cupboard. This project was funded in its entirety by the National Lottery Community Fund. The new system is already helping to defray the increases in our electricity costs.
- Purchase of a defibrillator for use within the hall. This was funded in part by some generous private donations.

B. Funded solely from village hall resources:

- To make our WiFi provision more reliable, we have changed from a cellular connection to full fibre, and allied this with a mesh distribution system around the buildings. This gives a more robust system with much better bandwidth for hall users to enjoy.
- Improving the ground through the gate into the paddock area. This was necessary after an emergency vehicle became bogged down in the previously soft ground.
- A thorough flush of the central heating system, and replacement of life-expired radiator valves have helped to make the heating more efficient, and this in turn has kept our gas costs down when set against rising prices.
- External repainting.

2025 will see further upgrades and improvements throughout the facilities. In the medium term we will need to provide resources to replace the gas boilers, and we are reviewing the kitchen equipment with a view to replacement where necessary.

January 2025



Keith Whiting
Chair, Northiam Village Hall Trust



Bernard Bone
Treasurer, Northiam Village Hall Trust

NORTHAM VILLAGE HALL TRUST

Registered Charity No: 269218

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2024

	2024	2023
	£	£
INCOME		
Lettings	16,622	16,695
Donations	531	40
Fund Raising	5,361	4,285
Miscellaneous	3,432	2,443
Grants re: Special Projects	19,010	16,125
Bank Interest	303	186
Maintenance Petty Cash not longer required	0	100
	<u>45,259</u>	<u>39,874</u>
EXPENDITURE		
Insurance	1,418	1,242
Repairs, Renewals and Maintenance	5,770	3,727
Cleaning	2,400	2,220
Equipment	691	3,588
Administration	1,437	1,181
Rates	0	57
Heat and Light	3,208	2,909
Water	528	418
Fund raising expenses	821	942
Expenditure on special projects	17,638	23,109
Loan repayment	600	600
Miscellaneous	1,069	479
	<u>35,579</u>	<u>40,471</u>
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR	9,680	(597)
Cash funds brought forward 1.1.24	19,236	19,833
Cash funds carried forward 31.12.24	<u>28,916</u>	<u>19,236</u>

NORTHAM VILLAGE HALL TRUST

Registered Charity No: 269218

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AS AT 31st DECEMBER 2024

	2024	2023
	£	£
ASSETS		
Cash at bank	28,756	19,076
Cash in hand	160	160
	<u>28,916</u>	<u>19,236</u>
LIABILITIES		
Deposit for hall hire	200	0
Loan from Don Hanson Charitable Foundation	600	1,200
	<u>800</u>	<u>1,200</u>

The Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Assets and Liabilities were approved by the Trustees.

Name Keith Whiting
K Whiting

Date 22nd January 2025

NORTHAM VILLAGE HALL TRUST

Registered Charity No: 269218

BREAKDOWN OF FUNDRAISING INCOME 2024

	2024	2023
	£	£
Jumble Sales	1,221	1,411
Farmers Market breakfasts	1,214	0
Boot Sale	0	353
Coffee Mornings/Other	2,073	1,984
Cinema	1,244	505
Special Projects: defibrillator	140	
Amazon Smile	0	32
	<u>5,892</u>	<u>4,285</u>

BREAKDOWN OF GRANTS RE: SPECIAL PROJECTS

	2,024	2,023
	£	£
Rother District Council: Cavity Wall Insulation	3,010	0
National Lottery Community Fund: Solar Panels	16,000	0
Committee Room reinstatement	0	10,356
Acoustics Installation	0	3,000
Coronation party	0	1,769
Shell Community Kindness Programme	0	1,000
	<u>19,010</u>	<u>16,125</u>

BREAKDOWN OF EXPENDITURE: SPECIAL PROJECTS

	2,024	2,023
	£	£
Solar Panels	16,635	0
Defibrillator	668	0
Central Heating: Clean & Refresh	335	0
Heating & access system control	0	1,741
Paddock Room reinstatement	0	7,888
Coronation Party	0	1,530
Local Election hustings	0	281
Acoustics	0	6,360
Cavity Wall insulation	0	3,009
CCTV enhancement	0	1,400
White lining: car park	0	900
	<u>17,638</u>	<u>23,109</u>

**Independent Examiner's Report on the Unaudited Financial
Statements to the Trustees of Northiam Village Hall Trust
Charity No: 269218**

I report on the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2024 set out on the following pages.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Independent Examiner

The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year (under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act), and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts (under section 145 of the Act),
- To follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Act), and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was conducted in accordance with 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 the 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 accounts.

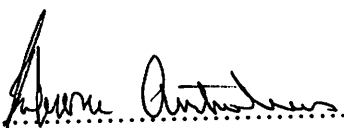
Independent examiner's statement

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the trustees have not met the requirements to ensure that:

- proper accounting records are kept (in accordance with section 130 of the Act); and
- accounts are prepared which agree with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act; or

- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.


.....

B A Antrobus BSc (Open) FCA CTA
113 Shakespeare Tower
Barbican
London EC2Y 8DR

23.1.2025