

Review of Progress and Activities

After 10 years of dedicated service and sheer hard work, Dr Mike Doyle stood down as Chair at the AGM in March 2024. Taking over when the Hall was in a weak financial position and a management committee struggling to cope, he has brought the facility to the successful and sound position it is today. The whole community has much to thank Mike for.

Wilbarston Village Hall continues to be the centre of community activities in the parish. The main hall is used daily for regular activities with the smaller lounge in use most evenings for various management meetings including the Parish Council and the Parish Neighbourhood Plan development.

There have been further changes of people in key roles. Jill West is now treasurer bringing her considerable experience to the financial management of the Charity. Sam Perkins is our new cleaner providing a safe and smart facility. Keith Langdon was our Hall manager for many years but he has now retired from the post. His time and dedication to this complex role has been exceptional and we wish him well. After a formal selection process, drawing on the expertise of trustees Serena Mellows and Sue Hussain, Paul West has been appointed as new Hall Manager.

Paul has brought a fresh prospective to the position and is proving to be a real asset. He was asked to identify and address unused capacity, particularly in the daytime use of the lounge. This has resulted in more hirings for the lounge, particularly from commercial organisations. This, and more celebratory events, has increased our income significantly. Also, bar sales have grown and thanks are due to Barrie Leadbeater and his team in their response.

This has improved further the financial position of the Charity enabling us to increase our support to village groups by reducing or waiving hiring fees and, in some cases, contributing to their event costs.

The 4-metre motorised screen is operational, the film club is in place and the village is enjoying the films. However, our main project for new toilets and accessible facilities is still on hold. The Parish Council and North Northamptonshire Council are in advanced negotiations to transfer ownership of the Hall to the village. When these are complete, we can then make application to funding bodies to help fund this project.

John Hooper – Chair, Wilbarston Village Hall Management Committee

Income and expenditure 2023-2024

Income **29504**

Expenditure

Wages	10811
Building & equipment improvements	7609
Building maintenance	5745
light and heat	2901
Insurance	1311
Rates and Water	1126
	29503

Attached

WILBARSTON VILLAGE HALL

Independent Examiner's Report To the Trustees of Wilbarston Village Hall

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31st August, 2024, which are set out on pages 4 to 6.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the Act) does not apply. It is my responsibility to state, on the basis of procedures specified in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 43 (7)(b) of the Act, 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 by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention :

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Acthave not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Richard W Brown
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2nd October, 2024

