

The Sir Robert Geffery Memorial Hall Annual Public Meeting

14th May 2024

Annual report by the hall committee chairman Mervyn Gingell at the Parish Council Annual Public meeting held on the 14th May 2024, in the Sir Robert Geffery Memorial Hall.

We have been operating as a committee now for nearly three years since taking on the management of the hall, after the COVID epidemic and getting the hall into operation to the public again. The Hall needed a lot of maintenance especially the electrical system to bring it up to the required specifications as required by our health and safety audit.

This year from May 2023 to May 2024 has been a good year. We have had a good year with the Hall committee working together very hard to establish the Hall as a community asset, by keeping the hall hiring fee as affordable to the community as possible to encourage more use of the hall for sports events, parties, regular club activities like badminton, Short Matt bowls, Young Farmer club activities, general meeting events for members of the public for coffee mornings, craft workshops and of course the library with its own coffee morning. A regular community lunch is cooked and provided on the premises for the community at a very affordable price for everyone on the second Tuesday of every month. A major source of income from the year 2022 to 2023 for the Hall came from the Hall undertaking music concerts in the hall by local groups and individual singers on Sunday afternoons. This was by ticket or pay at the door and was very well supported by the local community. These Sunday music sessions and the regular clubs have helped to bring the community together with regular events being undertaken in the hall and uniting the community not just the adults but children as well.

The local village pub, The Bullers Arms has reopened after being closed for 14 months, although this is generally a good thing for the village, it has greatly affected the Sir Robert Geffery Memorial Hall's progression through the competition from the Bullers Arms on events that we as a Hall were undertaking, such as the regular monthly Quiz nights, the Sunday afternoon music concerts. The Bullers Arms are now providing these items regularly with free entry to all, so we have had to stop undertaking the Sunday afternoon concerts as the musicians cost between £200 to £500 to book.

Tasks that we have undertaken in the last twelve months to ensure that the Hall is suitably safe and welcoming to all ages of our community are as listed –

We have applied for various grants to try and raise funding to help with the integration of The Soloman Browne room into the Sir Robert Geffery Memorial Hall. We have had a small success from applying for a £10,000 grant from the Cornwall levelling up grant system. This grant was eligible for specific financial tasks only, such as help setting up a business plan with an accountant, hiring legal help such as Solicitors to help transfer the Soloman Browne room into the Sir Robert Geffery Hall management committee. Also to Hire Architects to design the integration of the two buildings, and relevant building control systems and production of the buildings plans for the development and specifications and costings.

Following this we also applied to the Cornwall levelling up process for a grant to cover the building cost of the integration of the two halls, estimated at £120,000, but unfortunately we were let down in part by the original Architect who ceased work and we had to appoint another architect, and the Solicitors also ran into some unforeseen difficulties with the lease which dragged out the ownership transfer of the Soloman Browne room to the Hall committee. This caused our application for the grant to be held back for three months as we did not get the planning permission granted in a timely

time frame for the grant application, unfortunately then our application for the grant was unsuccessful. This was a huge disappointment for all the committee, however now that we have successfully obtained the planning permission, and the solicitors have overcome the legal difficulties and the Soloman Browne room building being transferred to the Hall management committee. As the planning permission is set for the work to be undertaken in a three-year period, with the Hall committee looking at other funding avenues for grants to assist with this work, and the Hall committee undertaking various other functions in the hall to help raise extra revenue to help aid the development and integration of the two buildings during this three-year period. We have agreed to break down the building task into small affordable sections to enable us to be able to move forward as and when finances allow rather than trying to complete the work as a large project.

Use of Local volunteer building contractors where possible have been involved in replacing and refixing slates on the main Hall roof, undertaking electrical installations and repairs, plumbing and heating issues. Also, the hall fire alarms are tested by a fire alarm specialist every six months, and the fire extinguishers are tested every year.

Aims and Objectives for the next 12 months.

To continue to advertise and get the hall fully used as much as possible.

To complete the integration of the Soloman Browne room into the Hall asap

Ensure we continue to update and maintain the hall to ensure it is decorated and in suitable condition both inside and outside.

To complete the Solar Panel erection on the Annex roof and with a suitable intelligent solar powered battery storage system that will allow us to store energy from our overnight cheaper electric tariff to use cheaper stored electricity during the daytime openings of the hall.

Hopefully we will be able to rebuild the back wall by the annex with cement and stone vertically to enable us to have a 300-millimetre wider footpath at the bottom of the wall so as to allow easier and safer wheelchair access for members of the community to the back patio courtyard.

It is our aim if we are successful with the integration of the Solomon Brown room into the hall, we will also renew the halls ageing gas central heating boiler and replace it with a much more modern and cost efficient gas boiler which will run 3 different heating systems for the main hall, the annex, and the Solomon brown room, either individually or altogether when needed.

I fully appreciate the very hard work that the hall committee has undertaken for the hall's progression during the last year, and I am looking forward to undertaking our aims and objectives as a committee over the next 12 months.

Thank you very much to everyone on the hall committee, and to the volunteers from the community who have been such a great support and help during the last Twelve months

Mervyn Gingell Chairman of the Sir Robert Geffery Hall committee.

Sir Robert Geffery Memorial Hall

Report of the Auditor for the year ended 31st March 2024

Following the audit of the Sir Robert Geffery Memorial Hall accounts I am able to report that all accounting records and relevant documentation have been made available to me. All Income and Expenditure has been correctly recorded and a true and proper statement of the financial affairs of the Hall was provided for the year ended 31st March 2024.

Ian J Biffen
30th May 2024

Sir Robert Geffery Memorial Hall Accounts

Summary 2023-2024

Main Account Year Total		
Income		
Grants & Misc	38,459	
Hall Hire	6,170	
Functions	2,300	
Bar	26,767	
Total Income		73,696
Expenditure		
Misc and Petty Cash	17,191	
Property	1,201	
Maintenance	3,362	
Functions	1,351	
Services	3,223	
Bar	18,168	
Rebuild	12,642	
Total Expenditure		57,138
Opening Bank Balance		38,239
Plus Income		73,696
		111,935
Less Expenditure		57,138
Closing Bank Balance		54,797
Bar Float		120
Plus value of Bar stock		2,703
Less Petty Cash Ac.		419
Total financial worth		57,202

Bar Account Year Total		
Income		
Cash & Cards	26,767	
Bar Float	120	
Total Income		26,887
Expenditure		
Opening Stock	0	
Plus Purchases	18,168	
Total Expenditure		18,168
Less Closing Stock		2,703
Bar Profit	38.84%	11,422

Capital Grant Funding		
Income		
Pillaton Grant	5,000	
Expenditure		
	0	
Remaining	5,000	
Income		
SP HSF Grant	10,000	
Expenditure		
	0	
Remaining	10,000	
Income		
Levelling-Up Grant	10,026	
Total Income		10,026
Expenditure		
Vanguard Ac.	5,400	
CoCreate Ac.	3,978	
Wellers Ac	2,414	
Total Expenditure		11,792
Remaining		0
Overspend paid from main Ac		(1,766)

Closing Bank Balance	54,797
Less Grant Funding	15,000
Useable Cash: 1 Apr 24	39,797
Useable Cash: 1 Apr 23	38,239
Useable Cash: 1 Apr 22	39,158

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