

**Chairman's report** *(extracted from the minutes of the AGM).*

As Chair of the Trustees, I am pleased to report that the Hall and Park are in good financial health. The Park has successfully raised the funds required so far and will continue with fund raising activity. The hall is reliant on income from our bookings which are healthy. However, our regular expenses have risen and in particular, electricity bills jumped significantly to £1,500 to £2,000 per month during the coldest months. As a result, we are investing £11,000 in a new heating system to reduce our electricity costs and will be reviewing rents in line with inflation over the last 2 years.

Our community groups: Rowney Green Horticultural Society, Drama Clubs, Sassy Lassies, and ACE continue to use the hall.

The Goat and Trousers Community Bar and Coffee Shop are both well attended and we owe a big thanks to all the volunteers who work in these community activities.

We also have commercial groups such as Pilates, Riopedre Dance Group, Toddlers Football and Adult Art Group.

We had our fireworks display, Fish and Chip Supper and Christmas Tree Light Up. It's great to see new faces attending these events. All these events depend on our volunteers and it would be great to see new people get involved. In addition, we dealt with the 5G mast application and subsequent unanimous vote against it.

We are fortunate to have the hall for the community as demonstrated by the role played during the Power Cut. The trustees, RGA and Alvechurch Parish Council are looking at how the hall could support the village in any future emergency.

We had our third summer fete on June 22nd and our fourth scheduled for June 21st this year. Will Savage, Sue Devonshire and the team of volunteers worked very hard to ensure a great day and to raise funds for Rowney Green Park.

Our maintenance team of Tony Cowles and Mark Coulson continue to maintain and improve the Hall and its surroundings. In addition, Andy Free has joined them in developing our heating strategy. These individuals devote a huge amount of their time to this work, we are fortunate to have their skills. I would like to record our thanks to them.

A big thankyou to Sadie Dykes and Annie Cowles for all their hard work running the hall booking system and invoicing our customers. Sadie Dykes is also the hall's auditor and I would like to thank her for her knowledge and efficiency in dealing with the accounts.

I would also like to thank Nan Fellows for her work as Treasurer and her diligence in administering the Hall's finances. Nan has now retired as Treasurer and Andy Free has taken over. We are very grateful that Andy has taken this role on.

I would like to thank all of the trustees for their help and hard work over the

year. We have been joined by Janet Corfield as secretary and she has done a great job.

Every time I visit the park, I think how great it looks thanks to our regular volunteers. They have done a great job on improving the Park for the benefit of the Rowney Green community and others who visit the Park. They meet every Saturday morning and as well as working hard have an enjoyable social morning often with cake or hot dogs. They welcome new volunteers.

Finally, this is my last report as Chair. Mark Easter takes over today and I wish him well in his tenure. Thanks so much to everyone who helped me during my time as Chair.

## Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Rowney Green Peace Memorial Hall

I report on the accounts of Rowney Green Peace Memorial Hall (charity no 523186) for the year ended 31 December 2024, which are set out on the following page.

### Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

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(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act); and
- 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 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 you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

### 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 130 of the Charities Act; and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have 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.

Name:

Sadie Dykes

Relevant professional qualification or body:

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT

Address:

THE DRIFT, ROWNEY GREEN LANE B48 7QF

Date:

16-5-2025

	2024	2023
	£	£
<b><u>Receipts</u></b>		
Income from hall lettings - clubs	17,161	18,291
- park	490	563
- outside lets	2,698	3,051
Fete	3,157	3,559
Fund raising	1,377	623
Donations - park	3,492	8,926
- other	4,386	3,434
Bank interest	517	138
Sundry	12	170
	-----	-----
Total receipts	33,290	38,755
	=====	=====
<b><u>Payments</u></b>		
Park costs	4,290	9,257
Fete costs	1,441	2,722
Events	777	860
New furniture and equipment	2,757	110
Broadband	483	540
Repairs and maintenance	4,285	5,714
Insurance	1,709	1,754
Gas and electricity	5,846	6,877
Water	864	854
Gardening, refuse, caretaker and cleaning	5,198	5,845
Fees and licences	870	910
Christmas tree	200	-
Sundry expenses	139	245
Fire and health and safety	954	414
	-----	-----
Total payments	29,813	36,102
	=====	=====
Net receipts/(payments)	3,477	2,653
Cash funds last year end	77,982	75,329
	-----	-----
Cash funds this year end	81,459	77,982
	=====	=====



<u>Cash Funds</u>		
Deposit account	56,363	52,846
Current account	25,096	25,136
	-----	-----
	81,459	77,982
	=====	=====

Signature of 2 trustees on behalf of all the trustees:

Signature: Nan M 7h  
 Print name: Nan M Fellows  
 Date of approval: 19/5/25

Signature: Andrew Free  
 Print name: ANDREW FREE  
 Date of approval: 24/5/25

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