

THE MEPPERSHALL VILLAGE HALL
Year to 31st March 2017
Financial accounts

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CHARITY NUMBER

300052

TRUST ASSETS

Land and Village Hall at Meppershall in Bedfordshire together with cash and other assets available to the trustees, and at the financial year end land with a fully funded building contract for a new village hall.

TRUSTEES

Steve Ansell
David Birch
Graham Walker
Graham Jones
Jeff Hurst
Dave Foskett
Louise Hutson

Specific responsibilities

(Chairman)
(Treasurer)
(Maintenance and Social Club Licensee)
(Legal matters)
(Property and Players user group)
(Parish Council)
(Bookings and hirings)

Secretary

Melanie Fergus

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

R T Bodily ACA
Chartered Accountant
Machins Building
Victoria Street
Luton
LU1 2BS

BANKERS

Santander Commercial Bank
P O Box 1
Bridle Road
Bootle
Merseyside
L30 4UA

HSBC
19 Midsummer Place
Milton Keynes
PO Box 1888
Coventry
CV3 9WN

ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The accounts are prepared on the basis of cash receipts and payments relating to the year and a statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the year.

Report of the Trustees

Constitution and Object of the Trust

The Trust was established by a conveyance dated 26th January 1960 of land on which the Meppershall Village Hall was constructed and recreational facilities provided. The assets of the trust are to be used for the purpose of improving the conditions of life for the residents of Meppershall in Bedfordshire and the neighbouring areas.

Trustees and Committee of Management

The trustees and committee of management is to comprise five members elected at the Annual General Meeting each year and others representing local organisations. No remuneration or expense allowances are paid to trustees.

After the end of the financial year Steve Ansell ceased to be a trustee, and Melanie Fergus as secretary.

Public Benefit

The trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives and in planning future activities for the year.

Statement of trustees' responsibilities

The trustees are aware of their responsibilities to prepare accounts for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of its financial activities for that period. In preparing the accounts the trustees have accepted the requirement to:-

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether the policies adopted are in accordance with the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice and with applicable accounting standards, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. They accept responsibility for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Reserves

The trustees will hold the majority of funds as reserves until such time as suitable projects or expenditure are identified to fulfil the charitable objectives.

Risk assessment

The trustees actively review the major risks the trust faces on a regular basis. As well as considering internal controls, the trustees have also examined the other operational and business risks faced and confirm that systems and initiatives are in place and regularly reviewed in order to mitigate those risks.

New Limited Company

At the January 2014 AGM the transfer of the Charity's activities and land to a new company where the liability of the members is limited by guarantee and the trustees are the appointed directors was approved. The trustees received agreement in principle from the Charity Commissioners. The transfer is expected to be dealt with in 2018 on the move to a new village hall.

Report of the Trustees - continued

New Village Hall

In September 2015 negotiations came to a successful conclusion to sell the land on which the current Village Hall stands and operates to provide access to nearby farm land for the purposes of constructing residential property. In March 2017 following receipt of a satisfactory planning consent the sale was completed.

The sale will fund the construction of a new Village Hall at a cost of approx. £1.72m on the playing field land previously owned by the Meppershall Parish Council, and which is due for completion in the latter part of 2018. The specification and design reflect modern technology, healthy living, sport, recreation and as many of the user's requirements as it is possible to meet within the cash resources available.

Chartered Surveyors have advised the trustees during the course of the negotiations and are now engaged to monitor construction of the new Village Hall to the agreed specification.

The trustees are working closely with the Meppershall Parish Council who are to construct new sports pitches and a cemetery on land adjacent to the new village hall, and for which they too have a construction contract.

The Trustees together with the Parish Council hold a contingency sum from monies received on signing contracts after meeting professional costs of just under £200k. This sum is available to the trustees and Parish Council to meet unexpected costs that may arise, professional fees and fit out of the Interim and New Village Halls together with sports facilities. This sum is intended to ensure the trustees and Parish Council can meet any expenditure they may incur during the construction of the new facilities and leave a balance to meet expenditure on the running costs of the new village hall and sports pitches should this be required in the early years whilst hirings and usage build up.

The trustees have worked with the developer and constructor to reduce the impact and risks of road safety concerns and construction disruption as much as possible, thus seeking and implementing practical solutions to issues identified or raised.

This continues to be an exciting and progressive time and the trustees are committed to working with the Parish Council, Croudace the constructor, User Groups and hirers to ensure the new Village Hall, social and sports facilities, serve Meppershall residents and the local area well for a very long time.

Review of the year – fulfilling our objectives and public benefit

Details of the activities are set out above. Income and expenditure are set out on pages 5 to 7.

The trustees consider that the objectives of the Charity have been met in the year.

Approval

This report was approved and signed on behalf of the trustees on 26 November 2017.

Graham Jones
Trustee

**The Meppershall Village Hall
Independent examiner's report
to the trustees of The Meppershall Village Hall (Charity Number 300052)
Year to 31st March 2017**

I report on the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st March 2017, which are set out on pages 5 to 7.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

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

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the financial statements under section 145 of the Charities Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

This report, including my statement, has been prepared for and only for the charity's trustees as a body. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body for my examination work, for this report, or for the statements I have made.

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 financial statements presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements 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 no opinion is given as to whether the financial statements 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 financial statements 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 financial statements to be reached.

R T Bodily
Chartered Accountant
Machins Building
Victoria Street
Luton
LU1 2BS

26 November 2017

INCOME	Year to 31st March 2017		Year to 31st March 2016	
	£'s	£'s	£'s	£'s
Regular User Groups hiring of the hall		9,792		7,933
Event or activity hirings of the hall		2,067		2,171
Social club rent paid - current year		8,800		9,036
Bank interest		4		6
TOTAL INCOME		20,663		19,146
TOTAL EXPENDITURE - per schedule		(21,912)		(20,855)
NET INCOME DEFICIT FOR THE YEAR		(1,249)		(1,709)
Exceptional items				
Professional fees reimbursed on sale of land	3,392		2,320	
Solicitors - New Company + Charity Commission	0		(43)	
		3,392		2,277
NET INCOME FOR THE YEAR AFTER EXCEPTIONAL ITEMS		2,143		568

The financial accounts on pages 5 to 7 were approved by the Trustees on 26 November 2017 and signed on their behalf by:

D C Birch
Treasurer and Trustee

Bank Payments summary

1st April 2016 to 31st March 2017

	Year to 31st March 2017	Year to 31st March 2016
EXPENDITURE		
Cleaning:		
Wages & contractors	5,460	5,916
Materials	803	961
Waste removal	3,086	3,046
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	9,349	9,923
Maintenance - general:		
Contract	840	840
Electric/gas testing and certificates	0	336
Fire extinguishers	239	160
PHS hygiene	1,000	910
Contractors and materials	129	540
Radiators, plumbing, repairs, replacements	0	17
Cooker cleaning	0	120
Letting & Hire sign	84	0
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	2,292	2,923
Operational costs:		
Insurance	1,718	2,027
Water	1,044	868
Gas	1,661	1,792
Electric - current year	4,737	2,714
Electric - compensation ex gratia credits	0	(398)
Telephone & Broadband	389	338
Letting secretary, post, accounts review and sundries	108	161
Website	40	0
Performing rights society	478	507
Bank charges	96	0
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	10,271	8,009
Totals for the year	<hr/> 21,912 <hr/>	<hr/> 20,855 <hr/>

	Year to 31st March 2017		Year to 31st March 2016	
	£'s	£'s	£'s	£'s
Long Term Assets				
Land and building contract for the new village hall and cash reserve		See the trustees report		See the trustees report
Current Assets				
Debtors and Monies receivable				
Social Club rent	800		0	
Lettings and hirings	<u>3,141</u>		<u>2,722</u>	
		3,941		2,722
Money in the bank				
Current account - Santander	1,725		1,938	
Deposit account - Santander	12		12	
Current account - HSBC	1,476		4,309	
Deposit account - HSBC	13,609		8,305	
Held by lawyers	<u>0</u>		<u>117</u>	
		16,822		14,680
Cash in hand		0		0
		<u>20,763</u>		<u>17,402</u>
Liabilities				
Creditors and accrued expenses		(1,697)		(1,421)
Net current assets available		19,066		15,981
Net change to current assets in the year		3,085		811