

Registered Charity 304561 Awarded Hallmark 1

LOWER ROAD, HORSINGTON, TEMPLECOMBE. BA8 0EH

Chair. John Macdonald
Deputy Chair. Chris Bailward
Treasurer. Gareth Cherry
Bookings Secretary. Emilie Gordon
Primary Keyholder. Gillian Miles

Trustees report for the year April 2020 to March 2021

The Charities governing document is the trust deed, the original copy of which is held by the chairman of the Committee.

A management committee is formed each year. Presently it numbers 10. Representatives of user groups will make up part of the committee.

There are no paid staff. Trustees received no remuneration. Out of pocket expenses on behalf of St Margaret's Hall are repaid.

The charities bankers are: HSBC Bank, Yeovil Branch.

Our insurers are: Insure your Village Hall.

The object of the trustees is to provide a Village Hall for the use of the inhabitants of the parish of Horsington, County of Somerset. The Hall should be held upon trust for the purposes of physical and mental recreation and training and social moral and intellectual development for the benefit of the inhabitants.

As required by South Somerset District Council, the Hall has been closed during the Coronavirus pandemic.

At the time of writing the potential date for reopening is 17 May 2021 subject to Government Covid regulations and the possible date for opening, free of restrictions, is 21 June 2021. The trustees report that the Hall objectives have continued to be met during the closure and the short period at the end of 2020 when activities were allowed under Covid limitations.

Unfortunately, during the shutdown, the Pilates classes under the instruction of Carol Pirie have ceased. Ms. Pirie has moved from the district. The Upholstery classes have also stopped. The instructor feeling that he was too old to continue the classes. The very popular art classes will continue to be run on Thursdays and Fridays. A Yoga class has started under the auspices of South Cheriton resident Emma Riley.

The monthly meeting of the WI continued to be held in the hall as did meeting's of the Parish Council.

We are constantly on lookout for new trustees. One of our Trustees, Hannah Williamson, has moved away from the area and has resigned from the committee. We welcome a new trustee, Horsington resident Leila Moss, on to the committee. Our Treasurer has been in the post for twelve years and will be retiring from the committee this year. The Chair has been in post for ten years. The Charities Commission prefer not to have officers in any one position for that length of time.

St Margaret's Hall continues to maintain a healthy financial position. We retain a sensible amount in reserve. Day to day classes will no longer keep our current account in surplus and we have to raise additional funds to remain in balance. Until the covid19 closure, the Hall had

had an improved utilisation with an increase in the number of bookings and our operating deficit was a marked improvement on previous years. With the closure of the Hall, our earnings are zero. Fortunately, our Treasurer has negotiated all the government grants available. These sums will see us through the present crisis and will give us precious resources for the future. We hope that as the situation improves the bookings will revive and our position will rally. We last raised our charges in May 2018, the first rise for ten years, but still remain competitive with our immediate neighbours in the surrounding villages.

All our actions to rectify the deformed floor appear to have had the desired effect and to date the floor has not warped this winter, the fourth winter free of distortion.

The website horsingtonvillagehall.co.uk continues to be edited by the Deputy Chair and provides a platform for information, feedback and occasional bookings, as well as Minutes of Parish Council meetings since 2013.

The fire risk assessment will be carried out prior to the reopening of the Hall and the fire extinguishers will be inspected by an outside company at their normal annual time in June.

Our triennial electrical inspection was carried out in April 2016. Our electrician, who carries out the inspection, informs us that the check is now required every five years instead of three. The inspection will be carried out in May 2021. Routine maintenance is carried out on the heating boiler and kitchen electrical equipment on an annual basis.

We continue to maintain our Hallmark 1 category which covers all aspects of management, forward planning and development. The triennial inspection by the Hallmark assessors was last carried out in June 2017 and the appraisers were very happy with our standards. An inspection was due to be carried out in 2020. Unfortunately, our umbrella organisation did not have enough assessors, thus the inspection, which has been applied for, has been delayed until later in 2021.

The Hall Management Committee is grateful to the Parish Council for its continued monitoring and maintenance of the Hall surrounds.

Signed

John Macdonald, Chair, Management Committee.