

Messing Village Hall

Registered charity

301367

Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31st May 2024

Address (Chair):

9 Lodge Road Messing CO5 9TU

Website:

www.messingvillagehall.org.uk

Governing Document and Objectives

Messing Village Hall's governing document is a Trust Deed contained within a Conveyance dated 27th June 1951. This Deed established the Village Hall as a charitable trust.

The objectives, as set out in the Trust Deed, are the provision of a village hall for the benefit of the inhabitants of the parish of Messing and its immediate vicinity without distinction of sex or political, religious or other opinions.

The Trustees consider that the main activities of Messing Village Hall are in accordance with the objectives and that they are of public benefit. The Trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charities Commission on public benefit.

Trustees

There are six Trustees on the Messing Village Hall Committee.

The roles carried out by the Committee members are, as follows:

Mary Mann	Chair
Justina Rhodes	Treasurer
Steve Smith	Secretary and manager of online calendar
Andrew Lucas	Buildings Manager
Bob Suckling	Maintenance Manager and PC representative
Sarah Winstone	Trustee and fund raiser

The Trust Deed sets out the manner of appointing the Trustees, who also constitute the Management Committee of the Village Hall. Trustees are elected each year at the Annual General Meeting. The Management Committee has the power to co-opt further Trustees.

Weekly or Fortnightly Bookings

Monday	BilinguaSing	Art Club		
Tuesday	Up in Lights Dance	Drama (private)	Yoga	
Wednesday	Pilates	Dog Training		
Thursday		Kenyukai(private)		
Friday				
Saturday				
Sunday	Viking/Saxon Re- enactment			

Village Hall hirings 2023-2024

Over the past year or so, the Hall has added four more regular hirers. On Mondays during term time a singing class for very young children called BilinguaSing began in April. A dance class for children known as the "Up in Lights Dance Academy" began in March. Both hirings moved from other locations in the area. Last year, a Sunday monthly meeting for the Christian Motorcyclists Association was started in the meeting room and a Saturday fortnightly gathering for a Viking /Saxon re-enactment group began in the main hall. Other loyal regular hirings include three different quilting groups, the Wine Club, the Book Club and a Friday mindfulness session.

Over the past year the Hall has hosted an engagement party, a wedding reception, many Parish Council meetings (including the Orchard committee), defibrillator training sessions, regular coffee mornings, two fundraising quiz nights, the A12 MIAG action group, many children's parties as well as being the local polling station.

The hiring fees for 2023 – 2024 have remained the same which has been much appreciated by those hiring the Hall. Without their support the Hall would not be able to function as a local amenity.

Buildings and maintenance

A canopy has been provided over the entrance doors at a cost of £1,450. It provides some weather protection to the doors as well as shelter for hirers whilst unlocking the Hall.

The fire extinguishers have all been replaced with new units that can be used on all types of fires.

General maintenance is ongoing to electrical and heating systems.

The Committee decided to conduct works at the rear of the Village Hall to create a terrace for use by hirers. The works will cost £10,560 and 50% payment has been made from this financial year with the remainder being paid out of the next financial year.

The shed at the rear has been emptied and donated to a villager.

The stage was sold to a local charity.

Landscaping Project

The project to landscape the area at the rear of the Village Hall has just been completed. There is now a substantial terrace which hirers can enjoy.

Memorial Plaque

A memorial plaque was placed in the main hall to commemorate the significant role that the late Geoff Jackson played in the major renovation of the Village Hall.

Finance

The Trustees continue to set a reserves policy which requires funds to be maintained at a level which ensures that the Hall's activities could continue during a period of unforeseen difficulty and cover unforeseen expenditure on building maintenance or urgent equipment replacement. The calculation of the required reserves is an integral part of the Committee's planning, budget and forecast cycle.

Following recovery from the Covid impact, the Hall bank balance reached a level at which the Trustees agreed that two key improvements to the hall could be made:

- 1) Building a canopy over the front door to provide shelter for the main Hall Doors which suffer from exposure to rain and full sun. The impact of the weather has been affecting the door closure mechanism. The new canopy is hoped to provide some protection for the doors but will also provide shelter for hirers when they are taking equipment in and out of the hall.
- 2) Creating an attractive outdoor patio space at the rear of the hall through the fire doors for hirers to use. The shed has been removed and work will be starting to level out the existing concrete / terrace area and put sleepers along the hedge boundary.

The electricity generation has remained in line with prior years however the fixed price tariff for electricity finished as noted last year and the new payment schedule is more costly due to general market tariffs. The impact of the raised prices can be absorbed by the current Hall income.

The Charity had £57,033 in the bank as unrestricted reserves at the end of this financial year just slightly lower than the end of last year. There are no restricted funds in hand.

The Village Hall made a loss with expenditure over receipts as of 30th April 2023 of £76.21. This compares with gain of £3,959.55 in the previous year. All transactions are recorded in SAGE accounts system and where possible, receipts and payments are made through BACS to improve real-time processing.

Future Plans

Repairs and repointing are to be carried out to the front elevation. The brickwork has sustained significant frost and water damage over the last few years due to flooding in The Street over several years. A grant has been applied for to cover the cost of these works, and it is hoped that the work can be carried out in August.

Redecoration and installation of shelving and storage units in the caretaker's cupboard.

Provide garden furniture for the rear terrace.

Planting to enhance the environment of the rear terrace.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees by:

Mary Mann (Chair)

Date:

Registered Charity No.301367
Receipts and payments account
(Unrestricted funds)
For the year ended 30 April 2024

Income

	£	£
Year Ending	30-Apr-24	30-Apr-23
Hall hire	12,253	12,988
Electricity generation	2,427	2,132
Bank interest	244	44
Easy fundraising	0	0
Other receipts	635	790
Total Income	15,559	15,954

Expenditure

	30-Apr-24	30-Apr-23
Year Ending		
Repairs and maintenance	1,490	3,723
Fixtures & Fittings	6,730	859
Lighting and heating	2,838	995
Rates and water	484	406
Subscriptions and licences	463	521
Insurance	1,089	1,035
Cleaning	2,050	1,800
Kitchen / Toilet Consumables	-	-
Legal and professional	-	-
Other Expenses ⁶	366	145
Friends of Messing Church ⁷	125	2,500
Total Outgoing	15,635	11,985
Excess of receipts over payments	-76.21	3,969.55

Statement of assets and liabilities

	2024	2023
	£	£
Current assets		
Cash at bank:		
Bank current account	36,520	36,840
Bank premium account	20,513	20,269
	57,033	57,109

	2024	2023
	General	General
	Fund	Fund
	£	£
Balances brought forward	57,109	53,139
Excess of receipts over payments	-76	3,970
Balances carried forward	57,033	57,109

Notes to the accounts:

1. The accounts have been prepared on the Receipts & Payments Basis. Note: Some values that are rounded up may impact the totals.
2. The Village Hall is recognised as an asset but is not recognised in the accounts. In previous years, the Hall was recognised at a nominal £10,000. Title to the property is vested with the Official Custodian for Charities. The reinstatement valuation of the building for insurance purposes was £650,000 as at February 2018.
3. Fixtures and fittings and equipment are also recognised as assets, but not valued in the accounts.
4. There were no liabilities at the year end.
5. All funds are Unrestricted.
6. Other Expenses now include Website Hosting and Kitchen / Toilet Consumables.
7. The Village Hall Committee approved a £125 donation to the Friends of Messing Church to contribute to the Christmas Tree Lighting Event