

Chairpersons Report

Since being elected to serve as chairman at the 2024 AGM, it has been an interesting time.

~~Quickline~~ ^{Pearl Energy} completed our Solar Installation, it has generated in excess of 7,300 kWh since it was commissioned in July 2024. The support from DEFRA with the grant of £ 2,300, certainly helped reduce our own capital outlay.

Due to EDF being a very unsupportive business, we have not been able to take advantage of the SEG export payments. This being the case, we have now agreed to move to Octopus energy which has given us a good set of rates for the next 24 months. We expect to reduce our overall electricity cost by up to 30%. Once we have signed up to the Octopus energy export scheme, we can expect a return of £0.15 per kWh as against the SEG export which would have been £0.041 per kWh.

Our grant from the Co-op has given us extra facilities to offer to our hirers in the shape of a Bluetooth audio system. After initially extremely expensive quotes from companies to install the equipment, we managed to use a local electrician who charged us just £200 which included the provision of a new double AC outlet in the storage area which is now used to power the equipment. He also installed the speakers and routed wiring through the divider wall. This system is now actively being used by our hirers, and we shall ensure that it is highlighted within our offer on communications and social media.

Hallmaster has been a huge success, we have moved from a manual system to a semi-automated, soon to be mainly automated system. Luna has spent a large amount of time refining the process and is making excellent headway in taking our booking ability to the next level. Annual costs to use Hallmaster are £265 per year with the return being far more in time saving, convenience of access and visibility.

The Artisan markets which started in 2024 were initially quite successful. Unfortunately, this petered out during the year and in April, the organiser decided to cancel the remaining dates at the village hall. Looking at this from a long-term perspective, the number of events that were run by the organiser were in a tight geographical area and therefore reduced footfall in Ruskington due to oversaturation.

With a smaller number of volunteers currently, we have some limitations to what we may achieve and whilst it would be beneficial to both the community and our costs, until this has been rectified, I see limited scope to extend our offer with more complex and time-consuming events.

I believe that we have managed to address quite a wide scope of issues this year, with the support of both our team members, Alwyn, Luna, Tracy and Ray alongside our user groups and I am sure that we can continue to increase our positive impact on the community of Ruskington and surrounding areas.

TREASURER`S REPORT TO 2025 AGM, MAY 24TH 2025

(NOTE; Under CURRENT ASSETS of the Examiner`s report, the HSBC Current Account figure 2025 should ^{be} £10,444; ie reversed with Savings)

On the income side of things, we have increased this by £1,564 despite `Lettings` revenue being down. This is due to the two, non-lettings sources: Lincolnshire Coop Champions income (for the Sound System) received in April 2024, and the Action with Communities in Rural England (ACRE) grant of £2,300 in November 2024 towards the photo-voltaic installation.

The total cost of the Solar Panels was £15,200 and of the Sound System, (inc installation) was £1,502.

The three, other, major, single areas of expenditure were the comprehensive inspection of Fire and Safety circumstances extant in the hall; £504:

The urgent, remedial F and S work by Churches Fire of £373:

The installation of a HIVE hub to give greater control over the hall`s heating system, costing £265.

Points for Consideration

With the increase in the National Living Wage and National Insurance contributions, Ray`s (caretaker) employment will cost us, 2025/2026, approximately 8% more for the full year, than 2024/2025, totalling around £7,500.

Considering the Heating and Lighting figures in the `LESS EXPENSES` line, now is the right time to seriously review hiring charges for the hall and to implement any changes as soon as possible. ✓ Up 5.3% from June 25

The Money Manager money needs to be in a higher interest account, the current rate being 1.81%.

The lonos fees need to be paid directly through the hall bank account, rather than indirectly via Adam`s account.

I would like to ^{*}relinquish invoicing completely, handing over to Luna, but continue to be responsible for the Current Account and authorising the repayment of Occasional User deposit refunds if that is the wish of the committee. * Done July 25

RUSKINGTON VILLAGE HALL

14 429
285
14 714

2024/2025 Annual Auditor Report

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

	2025		2024	
	£	£	£	£
INCOME				
Ruskington Rascals		7,473		8,764
NHSBT		285		190
Other Lettings & Fund Raising (Less Deposits Returned)		14,429		15,204
Donations Received		1,512		288
ACRE Grant		2,300		0
Sale of Fixtures, Fittings & Equipment				0
Bank Account Interest Received		99		88
		<u>26,098</u>		<u>24,534</u>
LESS EXPENSES				
Caretaker & Gardener	6,955		6,674	
Heating & Lighting	8,160		6,642	
Water Charges	209		0	
Insurance	1,203		1,047	
Telephone, Internet & Website	285		676	
Repairs, Replacements & Consumables	19,438		2,608	
Printing, Postage & Stationery	0		0	
Licences	285		20	
Rent	2		0	
Cleaning	602		546	
Professional fees & Bank Charges	396		322	
		<u>37,535</u>	<u>322</u>	18,535
NET INCOME (EXPENDITURE)		<u><u>£(11,437)</u></u>		<u><u>£5,999</u></u>

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST MARCH 2025

	2025	2024
	£	£
CURRENT ASSETS		
HSBC Savings Account	10,444	21,980
HSBC Current Account	5,248	5,149
Cash in Hand including Quiz float	0	0
NET WORTH	<u><u>£15,692</u></u>	<u><u>£27,129</u></u>

Represented by

ORDINARY FUND

(Surplus of Income over Expenditure)

Balance B/fwd 1st April 2024	27,129	21,130
Net Surplus (Expenditure) for the Year	(11,437)	5,999
Balance C/fwd 31st March 2025	<u><u>£15,692</u></u>	<u><u>£27,129</u></u>