Trustees' Annual Report for the period

	Period start date				Period end date		
	Day	Month	Year		Day	Month	Year
From	01	04	2025	To	31	03	2026

Charity Name	**Maresfield Village Hall CIO**
Registered Charity Number (if any)	**1205893**
Charity's principal address	**Village Hall, Batts Bridge Road,** **Maresfield** **TN22 2HJ**

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted (if not for whole year)	Name of person or body entitled to appoint Trustee (if any)
Patricia Bowler	**Chair & Secretary**		**Elected Trustee**
Nicola Poole	**Treasurer**		**Elected Trustee**
Patricia Langridge			**Elected Trustee**
Laura Stevens Smith			**Elected Trustee**
Karen Tritton			**Elected Trustee**
Rachel Edwards			**Elected Trustee**

Names and addresses of banks and advisers

Independent Examiner – Adam Gibson-Brann FICB	
Bank – CAF Bank	25 Kingshill Ave. Kent, ME19 4JQ
Village Halls Advisory Service – Action in Rural Sussex	Waterside Centre, Lewes, BN7 2PE

Governance

The Governing Document for the original charity was a Trust Deed, dated 21st January 1966. Following the incorporation of the CIO this has been superseded by a new Constitution Deed dated 24th November 2023.

The Charity was established to maintain a village hall for the use of the inhabitants of Maresfield and the neighbourhood thereof, without distinction of sex, political, religious or other opinions.

The land with the building thereon is vested in the Official Custodian for Charities. The original Title Deeds were stored in the Documents Cupboard in the hall, with the land and building registered at the Land Registry as Title No. ESX371695. Following the incorporation of the CIO, the Title No. is now ESX371695.

The CIO Constitution governs the appointment of trustees and the management of the charity. The Management Committee is formed of up to 6 elected members, who are elected at the AGM, plus up to 7 representative members who may be nominated from their regular user group.

Policies and Procedures

To guide the Management Committee in exercising its duty of care to members, employees and users of the hall, policy statements on Safeguarding, Fire Safety, GDPR and Health & Safety have been adopted and will be updated annually. Copies are available to view in the hall.

Hiring Agreement

Use of the village hall is subject to a Hiring Agreement which must be signed by the hirer when booking. The hiring agreement sets out the conditions of hire and identifies the respective responsibilities of each party to the agreement.

Licences

The hall has a Premises Licence (not including alcohol) and is licensed by the Performing Right Society for live and recorded music

Risk Management

The village hall is insured with respect to property damage, contents cover, public liability, employer's liability and trustee indemnity. The cover is a Village Guard Village Hall Insurance Policy underwritten through Allied Westminster by Ecclesiastical.

The Management Committee recognises that it is under a legal obligation to protect the building, its users and employees through adequate and appropriate insurance.

Building Maintenance

A building condition survey is undertaken at 5-year intervals.

Gas and electrical appliances are tested by qualified personnel.

The mains electrical installation is checked every 5 years.

A Fire Safety Risk Assessment is updated annually by the committee's own Fire Safety Officer as required by law.

Fire fighting appliances are inspected annually under contract.

Volunteers from the committee carry out other regular maintenance checks.

Objectives of the Charity

The said land with the buildings thereon specified in the said first schedule shall be held upon trust for the purposes of the village hall for the use of the inhabitants of Maresfield and the neighbourhood thereof, without distinction of sex or sexual orientation, age, disability, nationality, political, religious or other opinions

Use of the village hall for meetings, lectures and classes or other forms of recreation, in the interests of social welfare and with the object of improving the social conditions of the inhabitants.

The Trustees consider these objectives to be consistent with Charity Commission guidance on providing for the public benefit, as shown in the list of the activities pursued this year.

Principal Activities in Pursuit of Objectives

The hall is in use most days of the week and activities continue to be extremely wide ranging.

Our regular weekly hirers include Universal Dance, Paracise, Pilates and Badminton, Ballroom Dancing and Yoga. There are monthly meetings of the Village Lunch Club, and Engage Charity Community Social Club. There are fitness and singing classes, many types of dance groups, and the Church groups also use the facilities. The Conservation Group, other groups and village residents use the hall for quizzes, suppers and private parties.

2025-26 Results and Achievements

The transfer to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation was completed by a signed Pre-Merger Vesting Declaration dated 13th January 2025. Following that, an application was made to the Land Registry for the official transfer.

Daily operating activities have successfully been transferred from the old charity to the new, and now we hope that the modern CIO structure will encourage new people to step forward as Trustees.

The year has continued to see a steady footfall in the hall. The number of weekend bookings has been a little lower than in previous years, which is possibly a reflection of the continuing cost of living difficulties.

A redecoration of the hall and toilets has been completed. Repairs have been undertaken in the ladies' toilet and an upgrade to the lighting to a more eco-friendly solution.

Funding.

The Committee works hard to make the hall attractive to potential users and the healthy financial position has been achieved due to the range of users and high occupancy rate. We are very grateful for our users' continuing commitment which contributes to the financial stability of the hall.
We are also very grateful for the Parish Council's grant and individual donations.

Reserves Policy

It is the Trustees' policy to maintain unrestricted reserves of a minimum of 100% of annual revenue. This is available for unforeseen expenditure in relation to building maintenance or equipment replacement. In addition, the committee agreed to build a 'fighting fund' reserve (held in the separate CAF savings account) which will be available should there be any future progress made towards achieving a new community building for the village.

Long term plans and the future of the village hall

In the longer term, the committee will continue to explore how to accommodate the needs of a growing community. Importantly there needs to be a recruitment of new management committee members.

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)	P A Bowler	
Full name(s)	PATRICIA ANNE BOWLER	
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair	

Date	8th July 2026

Receipts and Payments Accounts

Charity name: **Maresfield Village Hall CIO**

Charity number (if any): **1205893**

For the period from (start date): **01.04.25** to (end date): **31.03.26**

Section A: Receipts and payments

A1 Receipts

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	
Hirers	£10,698.50	£0.00	£0.00	**£10,698.50**	
Hirer's deposits	£290.00	£0.00	£0.00	**£290.00**	
Unrestricted donations	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	**£0.00**	
Fund Raising	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	**£0.00**	
Restricted donations	£0.00	£2,500.00	£0.00	**£2,500.00**	
Interest on deposits	£665.08	£0.00	£0.00	**£665.08**	
Other	£515.00	£0.00	£0.00	**£515.00**	
sub total	£12,168.58	£2,500.00	£0.00	**£14,668.58**	£0.00
A2 Asset and investment sales, etc					
Total receipts	**£12,168.58**	**£2,500.00**	**£0.00**	**£14,668.58**	£0.00

A3 Payments

Rates				**£317.36**	
Water & Sewerage				**£261.07**	
Gas				**£1,449.89**	
Electricity				**£950.63**	
Cleaning materials				**£170.89**	
Cleaning services (including windows)				**£1,858.00**	
Insurance				**£1,162.05**	
Repairs, renewals, maintenance				**£6,170.71**	
Wifi installation & running costs				**£321.30**	
Annual improvement project				**£0.00**	
Fund raising costs				**£0.00**	
Subscriptions				**£353.21**	
Administration & booking expenses				**£456.81**	
Miscellaneous				**£1,248.00**	
Bank charges				**£69.62**	
Equipment purchase				**£385.97**	
Hirer refunds				**£370.00**	
sub total				**£15,545.51**	**£0.00**
A4 Asset and investment sales, etc	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	**£0.00**	
Total payments				**£15,545.51**	£0.00
Net of receipts/(payments)				**-£876.93**	£0.00
A5 Transfer between funds				**£0.00**	£0.00
A6 Cash funds from last year end				**£55,834.97**	
Cash funds at this year end				**£54,958.04**	£55,834.97

Section B — Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

B1 Cash Funds

Details	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds
			£0.00
			£0.00
CAF current account	£3,208.23	£3,095.00	£0.00
CAF savings account	£48,654.81		£0.00
Total cash funds	£51,863.04	£3,095.00	£0.00

B2 Other monetary assets

Details	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds
Total other monetary assets			

B3 Investment assets

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)

B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)

B5 Liabilites

Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all trustees

Signature	Print name	Date of appproval
P A Bowler	P. A. BOWLER	2.6.26
N Poole	N. J POOLE	2.6.26

P. A. Bowler

CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees (Charity Name) MARESFIELD VILLAGE HALL CIO

On accounts for the year ended 31/3/26 **Charity no (if any)** 1205893

Set out on pages 1-2 (remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/03/2026.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

~~[The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified~~ to ~~undertake the examination by being a qualified member of [insert name of applicable listed body~~]]. *Delete* [ ] *if not applicable.*

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (~~other than that disclosed below~~ *) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

** Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed: A GIBSON-BRANN **Date:** 11/5/2026

Name: ADAM GIBSON-BRANN

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body FICB

(if any):	
Address:	AGB ACCOUNTING AND BOOKKEEPING SERVICES 3 MULBERRY PARK, MARESFIELD EAST SUSSEX TN22 2HW

Section B Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.