

ASTON CANTLOW VILLAGE HALL TRUSTEES REPORT 2021

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2021

Aston Cantlow Village Hall, Bearley Road, Aston Cantlow is a registered charity (no. 522852) governed by a scheme devised by The Minister of Education under the Charitable Costs Act 1853-1925 and revised by the Charity Commissioners in 2002.

Honorary Officers as at the 30 December 2020

Chairman	Lesley Harvey
Vice Chairman	Left Vacant
Secretary	Karen Williams
Treasurer	David Hannaford

Elected Members:

Lesley Harvey
David Hannaford

Co-opted Members:

Ciaran Aldridge
Karen Williams
Keith Osborne
Helen Berry

Representative members:

Woman's Institute	- Ann Platt
Local History Society	- Ann Platt
Parish Council	- Lesley Harvey
Parochial Church Council	- None appointed
Tennis Club	- Helen Douglas
Aston Cantlow Club	- None appointed

Object of the Village Hall Charity

The object of the Foundation shall be the provision and maintenance of a village hall for the use of the inhabitants of Aston Cantlow and the surrounding district without distinction of gender, or of political, religious or other opinions; and in particular for the use of meetings, lectures and classes and for all other forms of recreation and leisure time occupation with the object of improving the conditions of the said inhabitants.

The Committee and Meetings

For this year a directive from government and the charities commission suggested that the Officers in situ remain in place for the time being and until such times as the pandemic restrictions are lifted

at which time an AGM should take place during which the officers will be appointed. We followed this advice and therefore I continued in my position as Chair and David Hannaford remained as Treasurer. This directive was continued up until April 2022.

This year has been a difficult one, as once again we were in and out of lockdown, and regular meetings even viz Zoom proved difficult. However, once the Hall was reopened we were pleased to note that all regular clients reinstated their bookings except for the local branch of the WI who sadly have decided not to continue running in the village. However, we have been very fortunate as can be seen from the Treasurers report (for which I thank him and for his dedication to the committee) we are in good shape financially having accessed a number of government grants which have kept us that way.

Maintenance and Refurbishment

David Hannaford with the assistance some of the time of Mick Walker (even though he is no longer on the committee) and from Keith Osborne undertook responsibility for general maintenance during the last year with additional help for the Playground areas from Ciaran Aldridge and others as needed. I would like to thank them all for their hard work throughout what has been a difficult period.

There have been some areas of expenditure this year, but it has been minimal as can be seen from the accounts. We have had to do some general day to day maintenance rather than anything major and of course we have had to put into place a more rigorous and regular cleaning and sanitizing scheme in line with the COVID-19 guidelines. We would like to thank for this coming year things will settle down in terms of bookings and more importantly with the committee members being able to focus on the maintenance and upgrading to both the playground and the Hall itself.

Risk Assessment

We have continued to run our risk review process for the hall and the surrounding area in particular to focus on health and safety issues with particular focus on COVID 19.

Properties and Tenancies

All three residential properties were fully let during the year and continued to provide good income. There was some expenditure required as the tenants in one of the cottages asked for a wood burner to be installed as they had concerns about the cost of electricity (which is the current method of heating). This was carried out and we believe this to be a good investment for the future lettings of the property.

Caretaker and Cleaner

Our caretaker Elizabeth Leedham, who is also our cleaner and has been doing a great job, identifying areas within the Hall and its surroundings that need attention, and in some cases undertaking the work herself to put things right. I would like to extend my thanks to Lizzie for the sterling work she has done during this difficult period. Now that we are getting back to normal life her workload in terms of cleaning will return to the pre-covid terms as will her role as caretaker.

Events

A number of local organisations continue to use the Village Hall on a regular basis. These include the Local History Society, the Parish Council, the WI, various fitness groups and the Art Club. Several external organisations regularly book the hall including the Lace and Bobbin Makers.

However, for the most of this year we have had limited users – due to the restrictions. And, in addition, there were no events organised by the Committee for fund raising, but it is hoped that one can be arranged during 2021 once things are back to normal. Helen Berry has been appointed as our Fundraising rep and we are hoping that this will be successful.

Tennis Club

The Tennis Club continues in its efforts to attract new members from the villages within the Parish. Regular social tennis and competitive matches for those members who are interested are organised by the club's committee. This year of course it has been challenging for them – being able only to open for matches intermittently – until the full lockdown was put in place again late in the year.

Children's Playground

The Village Hall Committee continues to be solely responsible for the maintenance of the grounds and equipment in the playground. Ciaran Aldridge took on the 'appointed officer' role for the Playground and as such undertook a review of our equipment with a view to making recommendations for improvements in the short and long term. The annual costs on grass cutting and hedge and tree maintenance during being our main regular outgoing (see Finance report for details) and does eat into our income, however our maintenance costs for equipment we manage to keep under control – although we are now starting to look at replacing some of the equipment. We have once again received a donation from the Parish Council for which we would like to thank them and we would also like to thank them for their continued and ongoing support.

The users of the playground come from both Aston Cantlow and adjoining villages. Villagers and other users are reminded that this facility is maintained entirely by the Village Hall committee, with financial help from the Parish council as recorded, bolstered as and when we can with fundraising activities and therefore we continue to urge parents of our users to be mindful of the equipment.

Parish Council Emergency Equipment and Plan

The Parish Council has responsibility for these matters but at the request of the Council various items of equipment including blankets are stored in the Hall.

Committee Members 2021.

I would like to thank all members of the Committee for their hard work during the past year.

Lesley Harvey - Honorary Chairman

For and on behalf of the Management Committee – March 2022

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR THE 2021 FINANCIAL YEAR

In a year with continuing Covid-19 lockdowns and restrictions, we have managed to come out of the year in a healthy position due to a combination of grants and donations.

Our overall income of £37,975 for this financial year was slightly less than for the previous year but still above the normal pre covid levels of around £25,000. Total Covid lockdown grants in the year of £17669 contributed significantly to this result. With the hall being closed for much of the year or operating with severely limited numbers attending, fees from bookings were at a similar level to the previous year of Covid restrictions at £2845. Our rental properties were well occupied during the year bringing in an average of just over £1140 a month. Payments for car parking contributed to our overall income at the same rate as last year. We had a £1500 donation from the Parish Council towards the playground grass cutting and further donation from the estate of the late Alan Fell for £1500 towards playground maintenance.

Expenditure in 2021 at £21,843 was down by £6,624 from that in 2020 and a few thousand below normal pre Covid levels. Repairs to the main building were down, but expenditure on the rental properties was up. This included repairs to the outside steps, a new electrical consumer unit, plumbing repairs and the fitting of a new log burner and chimney liner. A Covid-19 business rates holiday saved us around £500 in the year, and we had reduced grass cutting and maintenance in the playground with it being used less.

The village hall made a profit of £16,132 in the year. In addition, our COIF investment fund increased in value by £27,384, but this may fall again in 2022 due to uncertainty in the markets over Russia and oil prices. This COIF Accumulation Fund held with the Charities Commission is now valued at £184,311 compared to £156,928 at the start of the year.

The Village Hall accounts show an overall bank balance at the end of the financial year of £40,040 compared to £23,907 in the previous year, with almost all of this being held in the current account. This will allow us to do some essential replacement of worn out items in the playground and some other improvements in the village hall.

At the end of the financial year, we had no liabilities, and just £104 of outstanding hire charge payments due to us, most of which will have been recovered early in 2022.

We are therefore generally in a good financial state and so should be able to continue to operate and maintain the Village Hall, playground and our rental properties in a suitable manner over the coming year.

I wish to thank all of the committee members and also the Parish and District Councils for their support in the past year and look forward to the challenges of the coming one.

David Hannaford – Aston Cantlow Village Hall Treasurer - March 2022

ASTON CANTLOW VILLAGE HALL FOUNDATION
Accounts for the year to 31st December 2021

Registered Charity no 522825

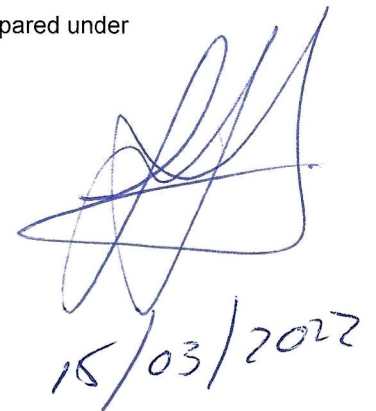
Receipts & Payment Accounts		General	General
Income Receipts		2021	2020
		£	£
Grants & Donations			
Parish Council	Grass cutting donation	1,500	1,500
Stratford Dist Council	Covid closure grants	17,669	10,000
Sundry Donations		1,800	12
	Sub Total	<u>20,970</u>	<u>11,512</u>
Trading Activities			
Hall Lettings (includes Tennis club ground rental)	Village users	2,155	2,191
Hall Lettings	External users	690	477
	Car parking	480	480
	Deposits	0	0
Fund raising	Events	0	89
	For Playground	0	0
Misc & refunds	Sundries	0	3
	Sub Total	<u>3,325</u>	<u>3,240</u>
Investment Income			
Rents		13,681	25,680
Other			
Bank Interest	Treasurer	0	0
	Deposit ac	0	0
	Sub Total	<u>13,681</u>	<u>25,680</u>
Total Receipts		<u>37,975</u>	<u>40,432</u>
Direct Charitable Expenditure			
Council Tax		157	60
Insurance		2,917	2,873
Water Rates		706	777
Electricity		1,340	1,644
Repairs & Maintenance (excl rental props)		2,591	10,529
Grounds / car park Maintenance		0	0
Playground (grass cutting & repairs)		1,461	3,655
Equipment/Furnishings/Supplies		0	18
Cleaning costs		1,560	1,690
Caretaking costs		3,000	3,080
Waste Collection		206	134
Subscriptions		0	0
Petty expenses		0	0
Events		0	50
Misc - inc window cleaning		115	150
Building works		0	0
Professional Charges		224	734
	Sub Total	<u>14,278</u>	<u>25,394</u>
Other Expenditure			
Other Events			
Independent Examiner's Fee		50	65
Repairs & maint Rental properties		7,515	3,007
	Sub Total	<u>7,565</u>	<u>3,072</u>
Total Payments		<u>21,843</u>	<u>28,467</u>
Net Receipts (Payments) for the Year		<u>16,132</u>	<u>11,965</u>
Realisation of Accumulation units from COIF			
Cash and Bank Balances as at 31 Dec	2020	23,907	2019 11,942
Cash and Bank Balances as at 31 Dec	2021	<u>40,040</u>	2020 <u>23,907</u>

ASTON CANTLOW VILLAGE HALL FOUNDATION
Statement of Assets and Liabilities at 31st December 2021

Registered Charity no 522825

	General 2021 £	General 2020 £
Monetary Assets		
Bank & Cash Balances		
Lloyds Bank Business 30 day notice inv A/c	20	20
Lloyds Bank Treasurers A/c	39,986	23,853
Cash	34	34
Total Cash & Bank Balances	40,040	23,907
Other Current Assets		
Hire Charges Receivable	104	245
Current Liabilities		
Misc Creditors	0	0
Advance payment against 2021 rent		6,954
Non Monetary Assets		
Permanent Endowment		
Land and buildings used by the charity include The Village Hall, Guild Cottage Corner Cottage and the 2 Hall Flats, Childrens Playground, 2 Tennis Courts and Car Park (Freehold Title vested in the Official Custodian for Charities)		
Other Assets:	2021	2020
Shares in Charities Official Investment Fund	General	General
No of shares held	761.07	761.07
Valuation of shares at Bid Price	£184,311	£156,928
Equipment and Furniture in the Hall, Playground equipment		

The receipts and payments account and the statement of assets and liabilities have been prepared under section 133 of the Charities Act 2011



15/03/2022

Independent Examiner's report to the Committee of
ASTON CANTLOW VILLAGE HALL FOUNDATION

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31st December 2021, which are set out on Pages 1 to 2.

Respective responsibilities of the trustees and examiner.

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; and the trustees consider that an audit is not required 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 accounts (under section 145 of the Charities Act ;
- .. to follow procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act,; and
- .. to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement.

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 accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, 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 I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement.

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the trustees have not met the requirements to ensure that:
 - proper accounting records are kept (in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act); and
 - accounts are prepared which agree with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act; or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed



T F Clarke
59 Carol Avenue
Bromsgrove
Worcs B61 8RW

9th March 2022