

BLAKEDOWN PARISH ROOM
Registered Charity No.523100
Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 30th September 2024



Principal Address

The principal address of the Charity is 18 Belbroughton Road, Blakedown, Kidderminster, Worcestershire DY10 3JG.

Structure Governance and Management

The Charity is a registered charity, registered with the Charity Commission under registered charity number 523100 and is constituted by a Trust Deed dated 25th April 1925 ('the Governing Document'). The Governing Document provides for the Charity to operate through a Committee which is to manage the Parish Room and arrange lettings to hirers. The Committee is also responsible for maintaining the buildings and the infrastructure and keeping them in good repair. The Committee consists of the trustees together with 9 committee members (4 of whom shall be ladies). Committee members are to retire at each Annual General Meeting but they are eligible for re-election. Committee members are to be aged 21 or over and must reside in Blakedown and the Committee has the power to co-opt any person(s) as members of the Committee. The power of appointing new trustees is vested in the existing trustees and there is to be a maximum of 5 trustees and not less than 3.

The Buildings

The current building was erected in 1973 and cost in excess of £50,000. It replaced an old corrugated iron structure which was erected in the 1920s. Fred Young, who lived in Blakedown for many years, died in the early 1970s and he provided in his Will for the major part of his estate to be utilised for the building of a new village hall.

Objects

The Governing Document provides for the use of the Parish Room as a place of recreation, social gatherings, entertainments and meetings for the benefit of the Parishioners of Blakedown either gratuitously or in consideration of any monetary payment or on such terms as the Committee may think fit. The Trustees

confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Charity's aims and objectives and in planning future activities.

Trustees

The present trustees are John Rostron, Wendy Priestnall and Robert George Richardson.

Correspondent

The correspondent is Mr J B Rostron of 11 Brookside Way, Blakedown, Kidderminster, Worcestershire DY10 3NE.

Principal Activities

The Hall is in use most days of the week for a variety of activities including Baby & Toddler Groups, Rainbows, Brownies, Guides, Dance Fitness, Yoga and Community Keep Fit, Adult Dance Coaching, Bridge Club, Art Club, Short Mat Bowls, Drama Group, WI and Orchestra Rehearsal. The Hall is available for hire for private functions including children's birthday parties, wedding receptions, funeral teas and Village social functions.

Summary

The financial year ended 30/09/2024 proved to be another successful year for the running of the hall. The income amounted to £25858 which was mostly comprised of hire charges. The sum expended on maintenance and repairs amounted to £4515 which included the sum of £1300 being the charge for levelling the balcony area at the rear of the hall and £1061 for various plumbing repairs. Gas bills totalled £2460 and electricity bills totalled £2593. The water bill came to £872. One of the main costs of running the hall is the cleaning bill and this amounted to £4064. The Charity ended the year in a healthy financial position reflecting the enduring popularity of the hall with both regular and occasional hirers.

Funding Strategy

The Trustees aim to manage the revenue budget on a self-financing basis and the hire charges paid by the users of the Hall are set to achieve this. The main source of the Charity's income is the hire charges paid by the users of the Hall but from time to time grants are awarded to the Charity mainly for building and infrastructure works. The Hall is advertised via its own website. The Trustees do not engage in any direct fundraising with the general public.

Reserves Policy

The Charity had cash and bank reserves of £68197 at the year end. These are held as a reserve to cover the cost of essential works to the buildings and the infrastructure, to cover the cost of replacing or up-dating the equipment and furniture in the Hall and as a contribution towards the cost of future projects.

Risk Management - Insurance

The Hall is insured with Allied Westminster Insurance. The cover for Buildings Insurance is £1,685,425, for Contents £54,493, for public and products liability £10,000,000, and for employers liability £10,000,000. The Hall is also covered for trustee indemnity, legal expenses and loss of revenue.

Licences

The Hall has a Premises Licence (which includes the sale of alcohol).
The Hall is licensed by PPL PRS Ltd for live and recorded music.

Community Involvement and Support

The Hall is an important asset for the local community and the Trustees work hard to ensure that it is available for local people to hire while also benefiting from hire charges from people and organisations from outside the Parish. The Charity's finances are sound and as a result the Committee have not had to increase the hire charges for several years.

Appreciation

The Trustees and Committee are volunteers and give their time free of charge or benefit and their valuable input undoubtedly contributes to the successful running of the hall.

Declaration

The Trustees acknowledge that they have approved this report.

Dated 29th June 2025

Signed *J B Rostron* J B Rostron - Trustee

Blakedown Parish Room (Regd Charity No.523100)
Statement of receipts and payments for year ended 30 September 2024

RECEIPTS	2022/23	2023/24
	£	£
Hire charges(net of refunds)	20851.00	23168.00
Miscellaneous payments	19.95	109.24

BANK INTEREST		
COIF Charities Deposit a/c	955.17	2581.20

	<u>21826.12</u>	<u>25858.44</u>
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STATEMENT OF BALANCES

at year end		
Accumulated funds		
Opening balance	56433.85	61828.72
add profit	5394.87	6368.46
Balance at year end	<u>61828.72</u>	<u>68197.18</u>

PAYMENTS	2022/23	2023/24
	£	£
Premises licence	180.00	180.00
Water	952.85	872.80
Gas	2799.02	2460.28
Electricity	1775.05	2593.10
Cleaning	2253.00	4064.50
Maintenance/repairs	4893.78	4515.51
Insurance	1471.79	1517.76
Grounds maintenance	1256.75	2058.00
Refuse disposal	405.00	630.00
Performing rights	298.92	250.31
Bank charges	68.80	70.40
Sundries	76.29	277.32
	<u>16431.25</u>	<u>19489.98</u>
Excess receipts over payments	5394.87	6368.46
	<u>21826.12</u>	<u>25858.44</u>

STATEMENT OF BALANCES

at year end		
COIF Charities deposit a/c	49414.25	51995.45
HSBC Bank Current a/c	12348.60	16135.86
Cash	65.87	65.87
	<u>61828.72</u>	<u>68197.18</u>

