

The Village Hall in Maplebeck

Charity No. 502304

Main Street, Maplebeck, Newark, Nottinghamshire, NG22 0BS

ANNUAL REPORT 2017

Objectives:

The charity was formed in 1972 with the aims of providing “A Village Hall for use of the inhabitants of beneficial area without distinction of political, religious or other opinions, including use for meetings, lectures and classes and for other forms of recreation and leisure-time occupation, with the object of improving the conditions of life for said inhabitants”. The beneficial area was recorded as Maplebeck and neighbourhood, defined as the civil parishes of Maplebeck, Kersall and Winkburn. These are small villages in rural North Nottinghamshire.

Our main modern day aim is to provide a welcoming, sustainable and affordable public space and a range of activities and services that attracts the broadest possible participation from local residents and acts as a catalyst for increased inclusion and community cohesion.

Management and Trustees

A hall Management Committee, which retires each year, is elected annually at the Parish meeting and these volunteers, with several others, organise all the local secular events. These include a wide range of activities and events, which attract villagers and people from outside the immediate community. The events are mostly at a minimum self-financing, which for many years has resulted in a small overall annual surplus. The volunteers are also responsible for all the cleaning and maintenance of the building, garden and surrounding area.

The members of the Management Committee, who all served throughout the year, were Derek Sayer, Chair; Bob Gardner, Treasurer; Jenny Bladon, Secretary; Brendan Carson, Bookings Officer; Julie Grundy; Des Cashell; Andy Colclough.

The members of the Management Committee are the Charity Trustees.

The Management Committee would welcome new members, either by election or co-option.

New Village Hall

2017 represents the second full year of occupation since the new hall was formally opened in September 2015.

The new sustainable building continues to exceed the expectations of all users. As planned, the use of quality materials and the key features of high levels of insulation, passive ventilation, LED lighting, on site electrical generation using a photo-voltaic array and a biomass heating system are ensuring that the running and maintenance costs are low and affordable. The Committee has ensured the hall has been maintained to a high standard.

Free wi-fi has been added to the facilities through the generosity of Chris and Angela Pass of Custard Technical Services Ltd.

Activities

An increased range of activities has been held throughout the year. These have included music, quizzes, talks, films, BBQ's, village and private parties, plays, and children's shows, fun days, films, and parties. Regular wellbeing classes, such as Yoga and Kurling, and a variety of meetings also take place in the hall. We will continue to encourage new ideas.

The hall was used on 163 occasions, with 2,140 user visits, which represents a further increase of 7.7%. Attendance from Winkburn remains disappointing. The number of attendees attracted from outside the three villages has increased to 50%, as our reputation continues to spread. There has been a wide age distribution of users, although 13-24 year olds continue to be under-represented.

The annual Village Garden Fete in July was another success and again raised a substantial sum, which as usual was shared equally with the village Church PCC.

Financial Review

A surplus was generated from the activities, having accounted for all the running costs. Cash flow has been managed satisfactorily throughout the year. The annual accounts have been independently reviewed.

The Charity is operated entirely by volunteers and there are no employees. The annual fixed costs are minimal at around £1,000 (rent, insurance and licences). The Management Committee has decided that it would be prudent to increase the minimum reserve to £2,000. The potential use of cash in excess of the reserve is regularly reviewed.

Signed D V Sayer

February 2018 Chair, Management Committee