

Ruspidge Memorial Hall Annual Report 2022-2023

1. Reference and administrative details of the charity, its trustees and advisers

a. **Charity name:-** Ruspidge Memorial Hall

b. **Charity Registration Number:-** 1050287

c. **Charity Address (secretary):-**
21B Ruspidge Rd , Glos. GL14 3AE

d. **Names of Trustees** on the date that the report was approved

Betty Coleman

Lesley Dunckley

Jenny East

Nicky Packer

Jennie Radford

Pam Sheppard

e. **Names of other people** who served as a trustee in 2020-21

Sally Graham

Tony Matthews

2. Structure, governance and management

a. The charity is administered and managed in accordance with the provisions of the conveyance and trust deed, dated 5th December 1921, as varied by the scheme approved by the Charity Commissioners on 7th April 1995.

b. The trustees are the members of the management committee.

c. The management committee consists of a maximum of 6 elected members, 8 representative members and 2 co-opted members.

d. Members hold office from the time that they join the committee until the subsequent AGM.

e. The charity holds its Annual General Meeting in March and elected trustees/ committee members are chosen at that meeting.

f. User groups appoint the representative members.

g. The management committee holds monthly meetings

h. The Treasurer prepares year end accounts and these undergo an independent examination i.e. an external review is carried out by an independent person with the requisite ability and practical experience to carry out a competent examination.

3. Financial review

- a. No reserves policy is in place.
- b. No fund is in deficit

4. Funds held as custodian trustee on behalf of others

Not applicable

5. Public benefit statement

The charity trustees have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Commission in exercising their powers or duties. See next section.

6. Objectives and activities

a. THE OBJECTIVES of the charity are "the provision and maintenance of a village hall for the use of the inhabitants of Ruspidge 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 the said inhabitants".

b. The charity undertakes the following regular activities which further its charitable purposes for the public benefit:-

- Operates a booking system for the hall.
- Manages rental income from use of the hall.
- Deals with utility companies
- Complies with relevant safety legislation
- Ensures that assets are properly insured
- Ensures that Financial Governance measures are in place
- Maintains the fabric of the building and organises cleaning of the property
- Raises additional funds

7. FUND RAISING

The 200 Club continued to be the main fund-raiser for the Hall raising £2400 with prizes of £1200 paid out of this.

It was a quiet year in terms of fund raising activities. A celebration was held in July 2022 to mark the Platinum Jubilee of her late Majesty, Elizabeth II. Despite being a very wet day, the event was well attended and enjoyed by the local community. A grant was generously awarded by Ruspidge and Soudley Parish Council and another grant was received from the Midshires Co-operative Society so all refreshments and prizes were purchased with those monies. A little money was raised from the event by way of donations for cakes and from some of the games .

A generous donation of £250 was received from Mr Nineham in memory of his late partner, Mrs Palmer. The money , with Mr Nineham's approval was used to purchase a bench with a commemorative plaque which has been put by the lower hall with a view of the forest.

A tea party was held to raise funds for the McMillan charity. The committee did not charge for the hire of the hall as the event was to raise funds for a national charity.

8. REGULAR USER GROUPS

WEEKLY classes:

The use of the halls by groups, resumed again after all the disruption of the pandemic. The next disruption caused by the economic downturn started to be felt as the Junior dance groups had to cease because of lack of participants. This was also true of DiDi rugby, but this might resume activity in later 2023

The following groups continue to be active

Shaolin Kung Fu

Yoga- this is now well established with occasional 2nd sessions in the week

Fitness for Health

Latin and Ballroom Dancing

Brownies and Guides

Pilates

Guitar group - this group is now quite successful and they put on a concert in December for the friends and families of the musicians and another is planned for late Spring

MONTHLY meetings:

- **Gardening club** is again running a well attended schedule of meetings
- **Book club** - this has now resumed after an absence during the winter months
- **Craft Group**
- **Ladies Club**

9. Hall Maintenance

A substantial grant of £5000 for 'Thriving Communities' was received from Gloucestershire CC. This money was used during the year up to December 2022 to support new user groups and to help existing groups which were no longer thriving as viable entities. The Guitar group, Brownies and Guides, Yoga and Pilates were recipients of some of the money. Other uses for the grant included improving the accoustics of the lower hall to increase use in that hall. To this end, in addition to the curtains purchased, the ceiling was fitted with acoustic tiles and new LED lighting which has improved the accoustics of the hall very much. Our grateful thanks are again extended to GCC for the grant

The need for a new roof, guttering and fascias was identified in early 2022 after the unusually violent storms. Damage was caused to the roof and this was *patch repaired as necessary*. However, the slates are 100 years old and considered, by some contractors, to be brittle and near the end of their life. A new roof will require grant funding and the process of accessing funding was started. However, it is a very big, time consuming project and work on it has, of necessity, been deferred until later in the year.

10. Achievements and performance

The management committee met regularly throughout the year 2021-22.

Signature of Trustee and Date

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