

## VILLAGE HALL HIRE CHARGES

FEBRUARY 2024

When our village hall was renovated in 2009 we set the hire charges at £6 an hour for village use and £8 an hour for others. Hire charges have not been raised since then.

Heating, which until recently was by 4x1.5kW infra-red heaters has always been paid for separately, on an honesty basis. We have recently installed a much more powerful 20kW central heating system, which makes the hall much more comfortable.

We now have a working smart meter and are also able to record the temperature in the hall, so can accurately monitor electricity use. Fuel costs have rocketed, we cannot risk losing money on the cost of heating.

The management committee needs to maintain enough income to cover all maintenance costs. This includes the higher electricity bills and may include roof repairs in the very near future.

We also need to move to an online booking system to reduce the workload of the volunteers who run the hall and, for simplicity, charge a rate which is inclusive of heating, all year round.

We have looked at the fees that are charged by other similar halls to ensure our charges are in line.

The new charges, (inclusive of heating) which will come into effect on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024 will be a standard £12 an hour. The only exception will be for private village functions, which will be charged at £10 an hour.

Since we will now be able to accurately monitor heating and electricity use, we will be able to review charges on a regular basis.