



TRUSTEES

James Lilwall **Chairman**

Jason Waller **Vice-Chairman**, Lindsay Kuczma **Secretary**, Jason Waller **Treasurer**,
John Mallen **Booking Clerk**, David Cockburn **Web Site**

Josie Beach & David Cockburn **Members Reps**

Trustee Members Carolyn Good, Rob Edwards, Rita Edwards, Julia Waller, Jo Porter,
Sue Whiting, Rebecca Ledbury **Social Media Lead**

Chairman's Report August 2018

I'm going to start my annual report by apologising that I'm going to sound very 'corporate' and 'city' in my summary of the year for the village hall. I expect that many of the words and phrases I use to sum up our year are very much fresh in my mind having just sat through my own employers half year results presentations to the investors, analysts and stock exchange.

I am however very pleased to report that we've had another very strong and successful year, building on our previous years since we opened this wonderful community facility three years ago.

Revenues are up, trading is up, debt is down, profits are up and investments are up, also on the back of all of this the community 'dividend' i.e. what our community as a whole gets out of the village hall is well and truly up. This is all very good news and surpasses all of our original business plan and social outcomes expectations and commitments.

Jason will take us through the annual financial statement in a moment, but let me just break some of this down.

We welcomed new trustees during the year taking our number up to 13, which is excellent and can I just welcome our new trustees to their first AGM. The trustees continued to meet monthly until the middle of the year when we decided to move these out to every six weeks. We created an operations subcommittee, whose purpose is to deal with the day to day running and maintenance of the building, enabling the trustees' agenda to deal with the more 'charity, corporate and business' requirements.

Bookings and use of the hall is up and we now have a good balance of both local community based activities and events set against business and external organisations bookings.

The best marketing and advertising for our hall is 'footfall' getting users through the door and spreading the word, this has been paying off with repeat bookings and new users.

It must be also said that here in Bawdeswell we give our users a 'meet, greet and set up/down service' with catering and tech support on the side if they wish. This makes us unique compared to other village halls where the majority offer a 'collect the key' service. All the feedback on this is very positive and does contribute greatly to the repeat bookings.

Financially we remain very competitive and our rates represent good value for money. The rates we charge are regularly reviewed and agreed.

Keeping our costs down and well managed is important and has been a major contributor to our healthy financial position. We are lucky we have a new hall but as the use grows so will the maintenance need and agreeing where we want to invest our surplus to keep the standard of the

building high and in a good state of repair is important. Investing wisely in enhancements to the hall, it's fixtures and fittings also remains a constant theme for the trustees. Investing wisely here again gives us further unique selling points and advantages for our users.

All of this leads to a healthy community 'dividend' and social out turn, whether that be a BEG event, cinema, community fund raiser, school holiday café or one of the many activities and events now being held here.

I'm very aware that behind all of this we have an army of volunteers making all of this possible. Without their total commitment and hard work we could have a very different outcome so I would like to put on record all of our thanks to the many that help unreservedly to make the hall the success it has become.

My thanks to all the trustees for all they do in helping keeping the hall running, there is much that goes on behind the scenes that many take for granted, but without you, your commitment, interest and energy none of this would be possible.

So as I look at the year ahead I feel positive and enthusiastic on what the possibilities are here for us at the hall, if we continue to manage the hall well remaining focused on the important things we can expect another good outturn.

I'll finish by again thanking everyone for their hard work, dedication and commitment.

James Lilwall
Chairman – BVH Trustees