

LITTLE EASTON MEMORIAL HALL

ANNUAL REPORT FOR FINANCIAL YEAR ENDING 31ST OCTOBER 2024

Our hiring level has been good this year with 9 regular groups and 24 individual bookings. However, we would like to see more residents using or hiring the hall. We continue to advertise the availability of the Hall for functions and group events by letting people know what is available for them through local channels such as the Parish Magazine and Facebook.

The improvements carried out this year were the new window blinds, re-decorating the main hall, kitchen and entrance, installation of security lights and the purchase of 100 new chairs. The outside of the hall has been tidied with bushes cut down and the grass cut around the main entrance. Next year the committee are planning to install electric hand dryers, a baby changing unit and fit acoustic panelling to the ceiling to reduce the echo in the main hall.

The Hall finances are healthy and this year we have had an increase in letting income to £11,875 18% up on 22/23. The running costs of the Hall were £9,975 which included the redecoration of the main Hall. We had an operating account surplus of £2,414.72. We spent £6,486.82 on improvement work including the purchase of new chairs. This gave us an overall deficit of income over expenditure of £3265.15. The year end balances show that we had £20,739.38 in our Business Premium Account and £5,654.81 in our current account. We managed to obtain a grant of £1,600 from the Stansted Community Fund to cover part of the cost of the new chairs so that will improve our balances going into the new financial year.

The Countess of Warwick show took place again this year and we participated with a tombola stall which made £780 profit.

Day to day management of the hall continues to be in the hands of the committee of trustees, elected at the Annual General Meeting. For 2024 the AGM was held on 13th February when the following were elected:

Chair:	Jeanette Green
Secretary:	Jessica Rush
Bookings Officer:	Jeanette Green
Treasurer:	Stuart Gilbert
Committee:	Adrian Hoodless, Ruth Blackwell, Suzanne Fox, Sue Bright, Maria Pallett (Sue Bright & Maria Pallett resigned in May 2024) Maureen Hide (co-opted in Oct 2024)

Art Group representative trustee: Vera Greenaway

No representative trustees were nominated by the Little Easton Bowls Club (1) or the Little Easton Parish Council (2).

The Hall is licensed to serve alcohol on any day of the week from noon till 11.30 pm. The committee is very grateful to Ian Sussams of The Stag for being the Designated Premises Supervisor under the terms of the licence.

On behalf of the Trustees
Jenny Green – Chair
18th February 2024