

Balance

2nd November 2021	£ 16,381.64
2nd November 2022	£ 17,567.15
9th November 2023	£ 20,219.25
6th January 2025	£ 13,720.51

The Hall finances remain buoyant. The renovation of the men's toilets (£ 7,938) has seen a fall in the overall bank balance. Nevertheless, a number of very well attended events this year has seen over 18% of this cost recovered already. The success of the Hall continues to be down to the commitment of the members of the Committee who use their time, energy and talents, to put on and run events for the village and staff the bar.

A huge thank you to Billie for all her catering and to Ashley for organising the Quiz night. The biggest source of income remains bar and ticket sales which brought in a total of £13,058 (up over £1,700 from last year).

Thank you to Caroline for organising the Arts Alive events this year. A total of £ 985 was taken in ticket and bar sales and this covered the total Arts Alive fee of £ 756. Thank you also to Phil & Elise for buying food for Summer fun BBQ, the Big Breakfast and the children's Father Christmas presents; to Emma for organising the Rounders and Summer Fun events as well as working on the bar; to Brian and Liz for also always being willing to help on the bar during skittles matches and to all who came along for the Spring Cleaning Day.

A summary of the income from key events seen below. This includes ticket sales as well as bar income.

Summer Fun	£ 1,716
Christmas Party	£ 1,030
Quiz Night	£ 695
Pub/Music night	£ 442
Big Breakfast	£ 376
Rounders	£ 317

Income from hall hire this year (£ 1,173) is up compared to last year. Along with regular hirers like Gardening Club and Peter band, there have been private parties, charity bingo evening, Ludlow Scouts and "Touched by Nature". The increase in income maybe due to increase in heating charges – see below.

The new electricity contract came into force in February 2024. This has resulted in an increase of about 78% on the unit price. Total spent on electricity since the last AGM is £1,689. Perhaps not as high as expected, but this is only 10 months of the new tariff and mostly the warmer spring and summer months. A review of heating costs for hirers has taken place and the payment meter in the kitchen has been reset to match the current unit price. British Gas have been promising a smart meter since February 2024 and they have recently confirmed that it is on the way soon.

A review took place of the bar prices following increased prices of the stock and the increased electricity costs. However, the committee decided that the prices would reduce to almost previous levels to reflect that we are a community resource run for the community. The increase in the price for Hall Hire electricity and heating will go some way to offset the lower prices of drinks.

A review of events taking place in the colder months, such as Film Night, which do not bring in enough at the bar to cover the heating costs also means that the Hall will be less likely to lose money.

Jas Jones has now stopped being able to clean the hall and we thank her for her work. Ashley has been covering a lot of the work, so thank you to him.

Two new extractor fans have been fitted in the kitchen. Thank you to Phil for working on them. Also, thank you to Phil in advance for working on reordering the electric fuses and the heating switches to make this easier to use for hirers and to reduce the chance of people leaving the heating on after they leave.

Further significant, but essential, expenditure includes the Hall's music and premises licences and the insurance which was on a 2 year fixed premium and will doubtless increase this year. Be assured that we will shop around for the best deal!

A summary of key expenditure is below

Men's toilets	£ 7,938
Bar Stock	£ 4,734
Electricity	£ 1,689
Insurance	£ 687
Internet	£ 415
TV licence	£ 184
Premises licence	£ 180
Music licence	£ 155

Lloyds bank changed their terms and conditions on our bank account and are bringing in a range of fees and charges, including £5 monthly charge and fees for paying in cash. Some research and careful reading of the small print indicated that if we change the status of the account to "Charity" we can by-pass all the extra fees and charges. So that has taken place and the Hall has been saved from the bank fees.

The Hall is still in a strong financial position. The figures have been submitted to the Charity Commission for their records. A huge thank you to all the members of the committee for everything they have done this year and also to everyone in the village and beyond who continue to support events at the Hall.

Martin Scott
Treasurer