

BARTON ST DAVID VILLAGE HALL AND PLAYING FIELD CHARITY

Registered Charity No 304475

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

AND ACCOUNTS

For the year ended

31st MARCH 2025



The Village Hall, Barton St David

BARTON ST DAVID VILLAGE HALL AND PLAYING FIELD CHARITY
Registered Charity No 304475
ANNUAL REPORT MARCH 2024 – 2025

Barton St David Village Hall and Playing Field Charity manages the Village Hall, Playing Field and Diamond Jubilee Wood. The Village Hall and the land on which it is situated was purchased in 1953. The Playing Field was purchased by the Parish Council from Somerset County Council in 1977 to provide community facilities for the village. The three-acre field on which the Diamond Jubilee Wood is situated was donated to the village in 2013.

Management of Barton St David Village Hall and Playing Field Charity is provided by a committee made up of Trustees.

Names of Trustees for the year 2024/2025

Chair - Chris Calcutt
Vice Chair - Peter Farrant
Treasurer - Claire Gosden
Secretary - Sue Forbes
Bookings Secretary - Nicky Wheeler
Representing the Parish Council - Dave Rowley
Representing the Parochial Church Council - Val Southwell-Sander
Representing the Tennis Club - Nicky Wheeler
Representing the Carnival Committee - Sam Landrigan
Representing the Scouts - Vacancy
Elected – Barry Hooks
Elected - Elaine Balcombe

The Village Hall, originally the village school built in 1864, provides a single large room with a food preparation area, toilets plus accessible entry and toilet.

A separate building at the rear provides extra storage and changing rooms with showers and toilets for use in conjunction with the playing field. Within the playing field is an all-weather tennis court, a children's playground and some adult exercise equipment. The field can be set up for cricket, junior football and croquet.

The Village Hall and Playing Field are available for hire - bsdvh.bookings@gmail.com

The Diamond Jubilee Wood is reached via a path that runs up the side of the Churchyard.

The Committee is responsible for the maintenance and improvement of the Village Hall, Playing Field and Diamond Jubilee Wood and to encourage their use by the local community. The costs are met from the proceeds of the Carnival, hall and playing field hire charges, tennis club membership fees and social events.

Expenses incurred by the Diamond Jubilee Wood are covered by a generous annual donation.

There are several ways communication is encouraged within the village:

Village Website – www.bartonstdavidparish.gov.uk

A Newsletter is published six times a year.

An email distribution list gets information around the village quickly.
Email Nicky to be put on the list - nicky.wheeler21@yahoo.co.uk.

We are also on Facebook - www.facebook.com/BSDVH

This year, the Treasurer discovered the hall was not registered at the Land Registry and has spent considerable time getting this put in place along with a small change to the Diamond Jubilee Wood status which needs to be held by the Custodian Trustee. This work is now with Porter Dodson solicitors and should be finished summer 2025.

The Charity has changed banks from TSB to Unity, which focuses more on charities and Parish Councils, and this enables most of the current account money to earn interest.

With the increase in the costs of maintenance and repairs to the fabric of the **Village Hall** and the upkeep of the playing field and its equipment, we have had to increase hall hire charges this year. The heating and lighting are now included in the hire rate. A water meter has been installed in order to reduce cost.

Modifications to the small storeroom were undertaken after pre-school moved to their new home, this makes the area more useable and has allowed more frequently used items to come into the hall.

The Village Hall is used regularly by:-

- Barton St David Scout Group - Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers.
- Children's Yoga
- Barton St David History Club
- Keinton Mandeville and District Women's Institute
- Pilates
- Barton St David Table Tennis

The Hall can be booked for private events.

This year we purchased an Under 5 Toddler Tower for the **playground** with a 50% contribution from the Parish Council. Junior sized football goals were also purchased

The summer of 2024 saw an encouraging display of wildflowers in the meadow area of the **Diamond Jubilee Wood**. To boost the diversity of the wooded areas further understorey planting was undertaken by volunteers from the Reimagining the Levels Tree Group and some apprentices from Nokia.

The annual **Carnival** is our biggest fund raiser and made £5,056 in 2024. It is organised by an active and well established Carnival Sub Committee, Chaired by Ed Powell, with Duncan Forbes as Treasurer.

Val Southwell-Sander organised a delightful Pimms and Ploughmans event in her lovely garden in June. The event made an impressive £465.

David Odgers and Duncan Forbes ran a mind bending Quiz Night in January 2025 and raised £586 for Village Hall funds.

Our annual Carols around the Christmas Tree in December was run in memory of Lynne Kirkman who led the singing for many years. £160 was raised for Lynne's nominated charities.

There follows a summary provided by each of the regular users of the Village Hall:-

Barton St David History Club continued to attract an annual membership of around 50 but our 10 meetings were also open to anyone with non-members paying a small entrance fee. Our talks covered a wide range of "broadly historical topics" and were usually attended by around 30-40 people. We have been fortunate this year in obtaining the services of several excellent local speakers, some of them members of the club, who have donated their time and expertise for free and for which we are very grateful. However, in general, as fees and travel expenses increase, we are noticing that it is becoming more expensive to hire high calibre speakers. Importantly, we believe "Drinks and Nibbles", the social side of our club evenings, continue to play a significant role in fostering community cohesion. The History Club section of the Barton St David website contains reports of all our activities and lists our forthcoming events.

Barton St David Friday Afternoon Table Tennis have had a very good year playing table tennis in the village hall most Fridays for 42 weeks. Our number of registered players has increased to 24. Not all of them come every week but we can always count on between 13 to 16 regular players. We only have two tables but most games are over quickly and players are happy to sit and watch or natter whilst waiting their turn. However, conversations have to come to an abrupt halt when everyone enjoys a break for homemade refreshments and a cuppa halfway through our two hours of play each week. We do not play during holiday times such as Christmas, Easter and most of the school summer holiday time, as players are either away or have family to stay. A photo collage is now displayed on the wall inside the hall for everyone to see how and where we play.

Lena has moved her **Pilates** classes from a Friday to Monday and now teaches four classes on a Monday and one on a Wednesday evening. All are well attended.

Lena has introduced a monthly evening **Dance Fitness** class for adults and has had a strong level of interest in these classes. Initially at one a month, these have now extended to two a month, depending on hall availability.

It has been a good year for **Barton St David Scout Group** and scouting locally. The youngsters have had the best of activities at all ages. These have included camps, hikes, ice skating, campfire cooking, London Monopoly run, expeditions, box car racing, an amazing range of indoor games and crafts, orienteering and all manner of water sports, caving and bouldering.

Numbers of youngsters remain steady but we could do with a few more at the younger age ranges. Our two challenges are the need for new leaders and helpers which is proving very difficult indeed. Our Cub camp has had to be cancelled this year as no adults offered to help the Cub leader overnight. Our other challenge is easier to overcome and that is a financial challenge. All our regular expenses have increased and that has meant that we are spending more than we are getting in via subs. So, our subs will be going up sadly and we will be doing some fundraising! See you at the Carnival!

Keinton Mandeville and District WI is going from strength to strength since we moved to Barton St David village hall. We have attracted a good number of new people (mostly from Barton). We are now well over the magical number of 30 which means we can afford good speakers for our ten meetings a year. It also means there is a real buzz in the hall each month with lots of laughter. Highlights from our meetings include our wonderful 60th birthday party with belly dancing, gin tasting, a talk about the achievements of the RNLI, goats from the gorge, a Christmas party and basically lots of food and drink! Some of us have been on an activity holiday and we also do theatre trips, meals out and more. Our outstanding achievement was running a concert with our Royal Opera House mezzo soprano, Amanda Floyd. It was a stunning evening and has put our finances in a very good position for quite a few years.

The **Playing Field** is regularly used by Cary Valley Croquet Club, by village croquet players and the Tennis Club. They report as follows:-

The **Cary Valley Croquet Club** continue to enjoy the facilities two afternoons a week with as many as sixteen players using two courts on fine summer Saturdays. This generates a good income for Village Hall funds.

There is an informal group of villagers who play on Tuesday afternoons, with six to eight regular players.

The **Barton St David Tennis Club** is run by Nicky Wheeler (Bookings) and Rosalie Odgers (Treasurer and Membership) and Duncan Forbes (Chair). The membership numbers of the Tennis Club this year have dropped slightly from last year. There are twenty three subscriptions in total: eleven family (residing in Barton), ten family (residing outside the village), and two individual members. Membership fees have not been increased - Family membership costs £45.00 pa for residents of the village and £50.00 pa for families living outside the village. Individual membership is £30.00 pa for members within the village. Junior members are charged at £12.00 pa (within the village) and £15.00pa (outside the village) – sadly we have no junior members at present. During the past financial year membership fees amounted to £1055.00 of which £500.00 was transferred to the Village Hall.

The Village Hall Committee continue to work hard to ensure the Village Hall, Playing Field and Diamond Jubilee Wood remain attractive assets for the benefit of the villagers of Barton.

Susan Forbes

Secretary

On behalf of Barton St David Village Hall and Playing Field Committee

May 2025

CM Calcutt - Chair
D Forbes Secretary
 Treasurer

Barton St David Village Hall & Playing Field Charity

Financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2025

Statement of Assets (As Insured)

Village Hall Buildings	1,353,781
Contents	43,660
Playground Equipment	70,122
Mowers	18,737
Marquees	10,021
Carnival Storage Container	4,697
Tennis Court	33,043
Outdoor Gym Equipment	6,575

General (Unrestricted) Fund

	Mar-25		Mar-24	
Receipts:	£	£	£	£
Private Hall Hire	1,596.00		1,655.00	
Tennis Club	500.00		500.00	
Pre-School	-		2,184.00	
Scouts, Beavers & Cubs	720.00		615.00	
Table Tennis	454.00		380.00	
History Club	187.00		40.00	
Yoga	334.00		280.00	
Pilates/Silvercise	988.00		1,136.00	
Croquet Club	1,127.00		857.00	
Total Hall Hire Receipts		5,906.00		7,647.00
Carnival	8,279.28		7,265.81	
Fund raising	1,051.00			
Village Croquet	310.00		335.00	
Total Fundraising Receipts		9,640.28		7,600.81
Donations - General		5,558.53		15,702.34
Barton St David PC Donation - Playground equipment				
Utility Meters		196.50		783.50
EDF PV Feed		2,357.36		2,489.12
Sundry		-		300.00
Interest Unity Bank		24.66		-
Deposit Interest		1,081.73		1,012.32
Total General Fund Receipts		24,765.06		35,535.09

General (Unrestricted) Fund Cont.

	Mar-25		Mar-24	
Payments:	£	£	£	£
Gas	728.05		941.15	
Electricity	552.00		1,113.00	
Hall Water	320.52		560.52	
Waste & Recycling Collection	632.62		758.06	
Broadband	349.03		397.92	
Maintenance	1,916.89		5,392.93	
Cleaning	1,793.49		2,169.07	
Total Hall Costs		6,292.60		11,332.65
Field Maintenance		1,134.49		5,212.13
Insurance, Memb & Subs		3,279.84		2,922.66
Bank Charges		6.77		
Sundry		136.99		129.72

Barton St David Village Hall and Playing Field Charity

Newsletter Printing		354.50		150.00
Carnival	3,223.00		3,124.88	
Total Fundraising Costs		3,223.00		3,124.88
Play Equipment	8,324.80		13,500.86	
Total Exceptional Items		8,324.80		13,500.86
Total General Fund Payments		<u>22,752.99</u>		<u>36,372.90</u>

General (Unrestricted) Fund Balance:

General Fund Balance b/f 1st April		15,193.63		21,031.44
Excess of Receipts over Payments		2,012.07	-	837.81
Less Transferred to Designated Fund	-	2,500.00		
Less Transferred to Exceptional Reserves Fund			-	5,000.00
General Fund at 31st March		<u>14,705.70</u>		<u>15,193.63</u>

Mar-25

Mar-24

Jubilee Wood (Restricted) Fund

Restricted Fund Balance b/f 1st April		485.05		1,051.84
Total Receipts	1,000.00		1,080.00	
Total Payments	741.33		1,646.79	
		258.67	-	566.79
Restricted Fund at 31st March		<u>743.72</u>		<u>485.05</u>

New Playground Maintenance (Restricted) Fund

Restricted Fund Balance b/f 1st April		2,284.72		2,284.72
Less Payments		-		-
Restricted Fund at 31st March		<u>2,284.72</u>		<u>2,284.72</u>

Total Charity Funds at 31st March 2025

Unrestricted: General Funds		14,705.70		15,193.63
Restricted: Jubilee Wood Fund		743.72		485.05
Restricted: Playground Maintenance		2,284.72		2,284.72
Exceptional Reserves Fund		15,000.00		15,000.00
Designated Reserves Fund		2,500.00		-
		<u>35,234.14</u>		<u>32,963.40</u>

Total Charity Funds Represented by

Cash Balance		-		79.00
Main Bank Account		10,316.71		9,048.70
Deposit Account		22,917.43		21,835.70
Carnival Committee Account		2,000.00		2,000.00
		<u>35,234.14</u>		<u>32,963.40</u>


Mrs E C Gosden (Treasurer)

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The Barton St David Village Hall and Playing Field Charity

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31 March 2024, which are set out on the pages 1 to 3 of the Financial Statements.

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act: and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to me attention:

(1) Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirement:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act: and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met.

or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



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Deborah von Bergen BA ACA
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