

## **Chairman's Report for 2006/7**

Our activity as a managing committee must be viewed against the objectives stated in the 1960 Trust Deed:

To provide a Village Hall for the use of the inhabitants of Tiverton and neighbourhood, particularly for

- Meetings
- Lectures and Classes
- Other forms of recreation and leisure-time occupation with the object of improving their conditions of life.

Any income that the management committee raises is used the following order of priority, as required by the Trust Deed:

1. Expenses of administration
2. Hall maintenance, upkeep insurance and other operating expenses
3. Furthering the objectives of the Trust Deed

Any money not needed for working purposes will be treated as capital and invested.

These objectives are delivered through a management committee which has maintenance and good appearance of the Hall as its priority. In addition, the committee promotes and organises events to raise funds for maintenance of the Hall or to offer activities that improve conditions of life.

To this end, the following activity was carried out by the committee in 2006/7:

- Through funding from Chester City Rural South Panel, the hall has been able to replace its aging, yellow plastic chairs with folding chairs having a padded seat for greater comfort. A significant part of this project is the provision of a mobile carrier, capable of holding all 60 chairs. This facility allows better use of the hall, as chairs no longer have to be stored around the periphery of the hall. 20 of the old chairs have been retained to support the unlikely event of capacity seating demands. The remaining 70 chairs were donated to St Judes, Tiverton Methodist Chapel and Deeside Hockey Club.
- Hall cleaning by our contract cleaning organization (Busy Brooms) has continued to be successful with the cleaners undertaking a full re-polish of the floor in addition to their regular duties.
- The Committee adopted a new policy during the year to comply with changes in legislation:  
Smoke Free Policy (May 2007)
- Provision of a teak outdoor bench to provide for greater enjoyment of the patio and garden area. This facility is available at any time; security is maintained by a ground anchor and chain.

- A CD player has been added to the PA system to round out the audio facilities.
- Holding regular committee meetings through the year, approximately every 2 months.

Active participation in the Sandstone News venture has continued through the year with the Hall receiving much useful publicity for its activities.

The Drop In Coffee Morning continues to run on a monthly basis with an average attendance of seven despite publicity through the PC Newsletter.

Income from hire of the hall is broadly in line with that received last year at £2842 against a small rise in service and utility charges. However recent rises in the cost of energy will have a more dramatic effect on costs into the future. Electricity costs are of particular concern as it is not obvious why the electricity consumption is around 2500 units pa (average household is 3300 units pa).

Caretaking/cleaning costs appear to have risen but this includes the annual floor polish which has required Busy Brooms to hire in a special polisher after the hall polishers failed a PAT test and were disposed of.

The surplus on the year of £770 is in line with that of last year, of which the major contribution is again from interest on deposits and this despite a large contribution from reserves (£624) to the cost of the new chairs.

To summarise, 2006/7 has been about continuing to maintain a very successful hall, carry out modest improvements to the facilities and stay abreast of changes in legislation.

S A Armitage  
Chairman