

## **Chairman's Report for 2009/10**

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 in 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. Where necessary, the committee promotes and organises events to raise funds for maintenance of the Hall.

To this end, the following activity was carried out by the committee in 2009/10:

- The Kitchen Sub-Committee under the Chairmanship of Derek Salmon has presented its final views on the new layout of the kitchen and bar area, and this has been accepted by the Committee as the way to proceed. We now await a quotation for the cost.
- Marches Energy Agency have delivered their energy survey report, fully paid by grant funding and the Committee have approved expenditure of capital on the main recommendations of improved loft insulation and a better boiler control system at a cost of £800. Other aspects of the report eg lighting will be acted upon in later years.
- Regular committee meetings were held through the year, approximately every 2 months.

The Committee is the poorer for the sudden death of Audrey Povall in Nov 2009, one of our most active committee members and a staunch supporter of community activity.

The Drop In Coffee Morning continues to run on a monthly basis with steady, but low, attendance, despite regular publicity through the PC Newsletter and web site.

Income from hire of the hall at £2828 has remained at the same levels as last year, with casual hire holding up at £220. Energy costs at almost £800 for the year reflect a truer cost than last year where the phasing of oil deliveries distorted the account, although in the next year we are expecting to see benefits from the improved loft insulation.

There has been a considerable rise in the cost of cleaning to £760 as we have run the full year with MollyMop who provide an effective service. Whilst cleaning is now the single biggest cost for

the hall, we have failed to find a reliable but cheaper service in the past despite a lot of effort, so it is a matter of now finding the income to cover this expenditure.

The posted lower surplus on the year of £296 masks a capital expenditure of £800 of hall funds to improve heating controls and insulation. The contribution from interest on deposits (£215) has reduced yet again and is set to fall lower still next year, despite the fact that our deposit balance has risen slightly.

To summarise, 2009/10 has been about continuing to maintain a very successful hall, whilst improving the services offered to users and investing to reduce future costs.

S A Armitage  
Chairman