



Registered with the Financial Conduct Authority
Registered number 31628R

The Hall Get Involved Limited **Directors Report** **31st March 2015**

Our door is always open. We're a friendly, approachable bunch and we love hearing from you. Email us at manager@exeterstreethall.org, call us on 01273 561149 or grab us at the AGM.

The directors present their report and accounts for the year ended 31 March 2015.

Principal activities

We stated our aims at last year's AGM; to crack on with our three-year plan to renovate the Hall, to provide a programme of activities and events and to deliver on our goal for strong community engagement.

But we faced a challenge. The Hall costs around £1,500 every month and income was nudging £1,300 each month. Not a trend we could allow to continue. That's why we were delighted when we finally broke even two months ago. We have achieved this in three ways:

1. We've been super careful on costs; a tighter ship you will not find. Local businesses have dug deep and donated goods and services ranging from Christmas trees to kitchen lino. We're also lucky to benefit from the hard graft of our dedicated volunteers and supporters - their efforts mean we make significant savings.
2. We've been working hard to bring private hirers to the Hall and keep them happy; they account for roughly half our revenue.
3. We've had some show-stopping events. Putting the fun back into fundraising, these have been successful, profitable and generate the other half of our revenue.

We're over the moon that careful stewardship and robust plans have helped us move towards a sound financial footing. But our work is far from done. Breaking even is very different to having a bank balance that will weather any storm. We've taken an important step towards long-term financial stability. But there is much more to do.

We know that sustainability is key. Not just for the fabric of the Hall, but for this social enterprise to survive. We want long-term visitors, hirers, business partners and volunteers. That's why we're committed to developing strong customer relationships, supporting hirers, helping businesses flourish in our community and showing volunteers what we can achieve through positive people power. Here's what we have achieved this year.

Firm foundations - our building work

Winning a £50,000 grant from The Big Lottery Fund to repair our leaky, creaky roof was just the start. Planning and project managing the work took place in this financial year. Prudent selling of the old tiles meant that we were able to replace the entire roof. We've also repaired our damaged drains, made the kitchen presentable and completed hundreds of small repairs.

Community in action - our events and activities

Of course, we're the longstanding home for the Boys' Brigade, Brownies and umpteen birthday parties. But we've introduced monthly films and literary evenings. We've hosted many events, including supper clubs, an art auction, World Cup football screenings, a Sports Panel, comedy night, community carols, food markets and an impressive celebration of Jimmy's Hall which combined a film, meal, interviews with members of cast and crew and a ceilidh. Phew. We know the value of no-cost or low-cost groups, so we've established a Tea Club for seniors, a free Job Advice session for everyone and our pre-schooler Stay & Play Group has gone from strength to strength.

Strength in numbers - our volunteers and supporters

We're indebted to our hard-working volunteers and local firms who have donated time, supplies and skills. Put simply, none of this could have happened without them. Our space is a place for the community, run by the community; our volunteers and supporters are the Hall's backbone.

Plans for the future

We have an ambitious five-phase plan for the building. That's expensive. But we aim to secure grants to help us achieve our wish list. We've been successful in the past and we hope to identify, apply and win the big bucks in the future. It's rewarding work - let us know if you'd like to help.

In reality, we will rely on our hirers and fundraisers for our income. We'd love your support to make these a success. It's your Hall. Let us know what you want or get involved and make things happen. Time-poor but cash-rich? The other way to help is by joining or promoting our Friends of the Hall scheme. By regularly giving what you can spare, you'll be playing your part in helping us continue, improve and grow.

We are regularly approached by people throughout the country who've been inspired by our story. We're proud of what we've achieved as a community so far. We aim to do more. We plan to attract more hirers, more events, more volunteers, more outreach

work, make more improvements, win more grants and have more fun! Join us. Volunteer, follow us on Twitter and Facebook, encourage people to become shareholders and nip along to events. Thanks for your support. Together, we can make a difference.

Directors

The following people served as directors during the year:

David Amor - Chair

Susan Corlett - appointed 4 July 2014

Marianne Craig

Peter Golton

Gus Sylvester - appointed 4 July 2014

Paul Winter - resigned 4 July 2014

Secretary

The following people served as secretary during the period:

David Amor - appointed 4 July 2014

Dexter Coombe - resigned 4 July 2014

Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31 March 2015 available at:

<http://www.exeterstreethall.org/documents/agm-2015/>

This report was approved by the board on 17 June 2015 and signed on its behalf.



David Amor
Chair and Secretary

We are so impressed by what you have done at the hall - it feels like a generous open door both to the community and to those that use it. - Theatre Producer

You're all doing a great job with that place. - A hirer

It went really well thanks, the ladies all had a great time so thank you for being so kind and letting us have the hall for free. - Care for the Elderly

A Kid's Film Club and Political Hustings on the same day? Fantastic to have this in our community. - Anonymous

This candlelit event in the fabulous space which is The Hall was one of the best literary events I've attended. - Catherine Meek, The Argus

I can't emphasise enough what a haven an affordable parent/carer and children's group is. - Stay & Play Parent

