

Annual Report for The Mere Lecture Hall Trust
For the Year Ending 30th June 2019
(Charity Registration Number 202620)

1 Administrative Details

Registered Office:

Newport House
Salisbury Street
Mere
Wiltshire
BA12 6HE

Correspondence Address:

Chris Wood (Treasurer)
Swainsford Fish Farm
Woodlands Road
Mere
Warminster
Wiltshire
BA12 6BY

Trustees as of 30th June 2019:

Mr A Bristow	Mr S Burroughs	Rev M Laurie
Rev E Kemp	Mrs D Potter	Mr P Platt-Higgins
Mr A Rees	Mr C Rutter (chairman)	Mrs H Watts
Rev M Shallcross	Mr B Watts	Mrs J Morgan
Mrs M White	Mrs Audrey Hart-Roy	Mr S Rutter
Mr C Wood (treasurer)		

Number of Active Trustees at Year End: 16

Custodian Trustee:

Legal Trustee Limited
Company registration number 00195819
C/O Rutters Solicitors
2 Bimport
Shaftesbury
Dorset
SP7 8AY

Trust Document:

The Trust was created by Deed dated November 22, 1924

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2 Structure, Governance and Management

The Trust is governed by up to 25 Administrative Trustees, with the backing of a Custodian Trustee. Six Trustees are especially representative of the Christian presence in the town and are elected by their own churches each for a period of three years. The rest are self-perpetuating, elected by the remaining trustees for an indefinite term, being gathered from the local community resident within 13 miles' radius.

"The Administrative Trustees shall manage or superintend the management of the trust properties with power to deal therewith as if they were absolute owners thereof." They thus have wide powers.

The Trustees currently meet once or twice a year. They annually elect a management committee to manage the day to day business of the trust, consisting of a chairman, secretary, treasurer and four others, who include a hall manager, and clerk of works. They also appoint a Grants' sub-committee of up to 5 trustees. The management committee meets as required, but usually 4 – 6 times a year. The Trustees approve the annual accounts, set the level of grants for the year, receive and discuss the management committee's report and decide items of policy.

The Trustees employ the services of a Caretaker/Cleaner for the Lecture Hall building. Although they are at liberty to employ any other servant if they wish, all the office holders are also trustees and act in a voluntary capacity. From time to time they employ professional help as required.

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3 Public Benefit Statement

The Primary Objective of the Trust is to provide a meeting place for the community of Mere and surrounding area for non-commercial use. This enables the various groups that make up the community to meet and develop spiritually, physically and socially.

The Hall is available to all sections and groups within the community although there are restrictions on use based on the requirements as set out by the original Trust Deed and the limitations of the building.

The Grants provided to the local community require the benefit to be used within an 8 mile radius of Mere and the purposes of the grant must be consistent with the objectives of the Trust as set out in the original Trust Deed.

None of the Trustees receive any benefit, direct or indirectly from the Trust.

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4 Objectives and Activities

"The objects of the Trust are the promotion of the spiritual, moral, intellectual or social welfare of the inhabitants of Mere in the County of Wiltshire and elsewhere, along lines not inconsistent with non-conforming Christianity, or the promotion of temperance, or the promotion of similar charitable objects elsewhere."

To this end the "Lecture Hall" building, a main 100-seater hall and stage, two smaller halls and various ancillary spaces, was given to the Trust in 1924. In many ways it serves as a community hall. At the same time various properties were also given to the trust as endowment for the Hall to ensure its spiritual freedom and financial independence.

The Trustees maintain the Hall as an attractive and suitable venue for many local activities as a benefit to the community. One of the halls is now a coffee bar and there are modern toilets and disabled facilities. The rooms are offered for rent at a subsidised rate to the community and at a commercial rate for commercial purposes.

The trustees endeavour to make small grants each year to community organisations and continue to explore opportunities to promote the objects of the Trust.

To maintain a viable level of income, the trustees maintain, manage and let a number of properties, both residential and commercial.

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5 Achievements and Financial Review

The Mere Lecture Hall continues to be well used and the Trust has been able to meet the primary objective of providing a suitable venue for the people of Mere and district.

The Trust continued to do various works to maintain the properties the Trust owns and manages. The Trust endeavours to keep abreast of current legislation to ensure all the properties are within the Health and Safety and building regulations.

The ground floor of Town & Country house is let as a shop and the Snooker club on the first floor of Town & Country House now have a new 3 year lease. So as of 30th June 2019 all the trust properties are let.

The Lecture Hall management is run without the daily services of a caretaker so users are expected to put out the tables and chairs that they may require, a combination lock has been fitted to the main door and regular users now have their own personal combination.

Unaudited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30th June 2019

for

Mere Lecture Hall Trust

Mere Lecture Hall Trust

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Mere Lecture Hall Trust
General Information
for the Year Ended 30th June 2019

TREASURER: C R C Wood

ADDRESS: Newport House
Salisbury Street
Mere
Warminster
Wiltshire
BA12 6HE

ACCOUNTANT: Gordon Chubb
542 Bishops Caundle
Sherborne
Dorset
DT9 5ND

Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 30th June 2019

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF MERE LECTURE HALL TRUST

I report on the Income and Expenditure accounts of the Trust for the year ended 30th June 2019.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiners

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) 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 procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act)
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. 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 I do not express an audit opinion on the view given in the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements have not been met:-

- 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.



Gordon Chubb
542 Bishops Caundle
Sherborne
Dorset
DT9 5ND

Date: 26/09/2019

Mere Lecture Hall Trust

**Trading and Profit and Loss Account
for the Year Ended 30th June 2019**

	2019		2018	
	£	£	£	£
Income				
The Gables - ground floor (Old Coffee Tavern)	6,500		6,500	
The Gables - Drama Room	-		400	
The Gables - Top floor flat	2,305		6,300	
Hartfield	5,200		5,795	
Courtfield	4,800		4,800	
Newport House - Maisonette 1	5,700		5,700	
Newport House - Maisonette 2	6,255		7,200	
Newport House - Office	1,470		1,410	
Town & Country House - office	5,000		5,000	
Town & Country House - snooker room	1,060		1,320	
Homelea	6,900		5,549	
Truscott	7,500		8,774	
Lecture hall	6,683		8,158	
Garage	<u>480</u>		<u>720</u>	
		59,853		67,626
Property direct costs				
Repairs to property - Gables	798		741	
Repairs to property-Courtfield	568		467	
Repairs to property - Newport House	9,322		19,776	
Repairs to property - Truscott	524		4,230	
Repairs to property - Homelea	415		6,216	
Repairs to property - Lecture Hall	19,944		6,971	
Repairs to property-Hartfield	<u>2,128</u>		<u>2,726</u>	
		<u>33,699</u>		<u>41,127</u>
GROSS PROFIT		26,154		26,499
Establishment costs				
Security	387		363	
Management fees	5,834		5,192	
Rates, water, licences & insurance	5,497		5,021	
Cleaning	2,199		2,468	
Heating & lighting	<u>2,039</u>		<u>2,084</u>	
		<u>15,956</u>		<u>15,128</u>
		10,198		11,371
Administrative expenses				
Secretary's expenses	56		128	
Telephone	271		102	
Post and stationery	-		6	
Advertising	160		307	
Sundry expenses	1		59	
Accountancy	600		600	
Legal fees	-		420	
Donations & grants	<u>12,000</u>		<u>1,890</u>	
		<u>13,088</u>		<u>3,512</u>
Carried forward		(2,890)		7,859

Mere Lecture Hall Trust

**Trading and Profit and Loss Account
for the Year Ended 30th June 2019**

	2019	2018
	£	£
Brought forward	(2,890)	7,859
Finance costs		
Bank charges	<u>-</u>	<u>64</u>
	(2,890)	7,795
Depreciation		
Plant and machinery	<u>211</u>	<u>92</u>
NET (LOSS)/PROFIT	<u><u>(3,101)</u></u>	<u><u>7,703</u></u>

Mere Lecture Hall Trust

Balance Sheet 30th June 2019

	2019	2018
	£	£
FIXED ASSETS		
Freehold property	159,462	159,462
Improvements to property	32,323	32,323
Plant and machinery	<u>1,944</u>	<u>2,156</u>
	193,729	193,941
CURRENT ASSETS		
Trade debtors	1,273	966
Deposits held by Gilyard		
Scarth	6,758	6,720
Bank current account	22,013	24,769
Cash in hand	<u>(11)</u>	<u>11</u>
	<u>30,033</u>	<u>32,466</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Trade creditors	1,033	675
Deposits received from tenants	6,758	6,720
Accrued expenses	<u>600</u>	<u>600</u>
	<u>8,391</u>	<u>7,995</u>
	<u>21,642</u>	<u>24,471</u>
	215,371	218,412
LONG TERM LIABILITIES		
Other creditors	<u>60</u>	<u>-</u>
NET ASSETS	<u>215,311</u>	<u>218,412</u>
FINANCED BY		
CAPITAL ACCOUNT		
Brought forward	218,412	210,709
Add		
Net profit	<u>-</u>	<u>7,703</u>
	218,412	218,412
Less		
Net loss	<u>3,101</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>215,311</u>	<u>218,412</u>
	<u>215,311</u>	<u>218,412</u>

We approve the financial statements and confirm that we have made available all relevant records and information for their preparation.

Chairman

Treasurer

Date: 26-9-19

Mere Lecture Hall Trust

**Tangible Fixed Assets Schedule
30th June 2019**

	Freehold property £	Improvements to property £	Plant and machinery £	Fixtures and fittings £	Totals £
COST					
At 1st July 2018 and 30th June 2019	<u>159,462</u>	<u>34,803</u>	<u>2,391</u>	<u>2,179</u>	<u>198,835</u>
DEPRECIATION					
At 1st July 2018	-	2,480	235	2,179	4,894
Charge for year	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>212</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>212</u>
At 30th June 2019	<u>-</u>	<u>2,480</u>	<u>447</u>	<u>2,179</u>	<u>5,106</u>
NET BOOK VALUE					
At 30th June 2019	<u>159,462</u>	<u>32,323</u>	<u>1,944</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>193,729</u>
At 30th June 2018	<u>159,462</u>	<u>32,323</u>	<u>2,156</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>193,941</u>

Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 30th June 2019

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