

## Village Hall Charges for Ad-Hoc Individual Hires

### Background

The village hall is a popular venue for ad-hoc bookings most likely because there is abundance of space in the main hall. Often the ad-hoc individual hire bookings are for children's birthday parties as the hall can also accommodate space for play, children's entertainers and bouncy castles and there is an adjoining kitchen. Ad-hoc bookings include a caretaker service.

### Charges

The Parish Council currently charges £15 per hour and there is a refundable deposit of £50 provided that the hall is left as it was found. The hourly charge has been the same for several years partly because the precept contributes towards the village hall as it is also the Council's base.

For this forthcoming financial year, the Parish Council again has a balanced budget which has resulted in a zero increase to the precept for residents. However, the core running costs of the village hall are under pressure from the cumulative impact of increasing energy costs and the rise in the minimum wage. The precept continues to contribute toward the upkeep and running of the village hall but it is suggested that the charging structure needs to reflect the times.

### Going Forward

All hall charges will be subject to review in the coming months. Work will be undertaken to better understand the anomalies and where possible have a more streamlined approach. However, in the immediate term the Parish Council is asked to consider a two-tier approach to the ad-hoc bookings which will be determined by where the hirer lives. It is suggested that a preferential rate will be provided to Clipstone residents provided payment is received from the same resident.

It is worth noting that it is not intended that these charges apply to businesses or not-for-profit groups, where a charge is made on those who attend the gathering. The intention is to review such hires separately.

### Recommendation

The Parish Council is asked to resolve that for new bookings from 01 April 2022, the following ad-hoc individual hire charges apply:

- Clipstone resident – hall hire - £20 per hour
- Clipstone resident – meeting room hire - £15 per hour
- Non-Clipstone resident – hall hire - £25 per hour
- Non-Clipstone resident – meeting room hire - £20 per hour

It is recommended that there is no change to the £50 deposit refund.