Pilton Village Trust

Annual Report of the Trustees

For the Year Ended 30 September 2026

1. Reference and Administrative Details

Charity Name: Pilton Village Trust
Charity Number: 233541
Registered Address: Pilton Village Hall, St Mary's Lane, Pilton, Shepton Mallet BA4 4BD

Trustees During the Year:

- Andrew Richards (Chair)
- Joanna Thoms (Vice Chair)
- Caroline Lewis (Secretary)
- Joseph Marcangelo-Lyons (Treasurer)
- Alan Ayres
- John Broxup
- John Lewis
- Tracy Mapstone
- Kelly Sumner
- Nkele Montshiwa (Co-Opted)

2. Structure, Governance and Management

The Pilton Village Trust is an unincorporated charity governed by a Scheme dated 22 April 2014, save that its Objects are those set out in the Scheme dated 17 September 2002.

The charity is managed by a committee of volunteer Trustees who are appointed in accordance with the governing document.

Trustees met regularly throughout the year to oversee the management of the Village Hall, monitor finances, and ensure that the charity's activities continue to serve the needs of the local community.

3. Objectives and Activities

The object of the Trust is:

> *"the provision and maintenance of a village hall for use by the inhabitants of the area of benefit without distinction of political, religious or other opinions, including use for*
>
> *A. meetings, lectures and classes, and*
>
> *B. other forms of recreation, sport and leisure-time occupation,*
>
> *with the object of improving the conditions of life for the inhabitants."*

Since the AGM in November 2025, the Pilton Village Trust has concentrated on building on the progress made in establishing The Pilton Stage as the operator of the Village Hall, maintaining and improving the building, strengthening its financial position and ensuring that the Hall continues to serve the needs of the local community.

The Trustees have also reviewed how the Trust operates, introducing a more structured approach to the allocation of responsibilities and oversight of key areas of activity.

4. Achievements and Performance

The Trustees are pleased to see The Pilton Stage Limited (“TPSL”) continuing to build on its strong platform and providing the facilities needed by the village.

The Trust has continued to work with TPSL on improvements to the premises, including the approval of remedial maintenance works identified through building inspections and larger scale improvements (outlined below).

The Hall is being used regularly by ten different local groups, demonstrating its continuing importance as a community facility. Food sales are also performing well, showing the continued demand from the Village.

The Trust is particularly pleased to see the Hall supporting such a variety of local activities and groups, alongside its hospitality and events programme.

Key achievements include:

- The Hall continues to be open six days a week and is well used by the community.
- User groups have been retained and expanded.
- Food service continue on Thursdays, Fridays, and Sunday lunchtimes.
- Noise control is well established and no complaints have been received.
- The ceiling in Winding Lake has been replaced following a structural engineer’s report commissioned after cracks were noted. The new ceiling is isolated from the floor above and sound insulated to enable better use of the room along side clubs and activities in the room above.
- Further roof repairs have been carried out to prevent water ingress and the gutters have been cleaned.
- Bar furnishings have been recovered and refreshed.
- Electrical and lighting repairs have been completed
- The operation continues to employ residents of the village and near surrounding areas.

These matters demonstrate the Trust's ongoing commitment to looking after the building and its facilities, while prioritising expenditure carefully, given the expected reduction in festival related income in the coming financial year.

These achievements represent a genuine team effort between The Pilton Stage and the Trustees, combining community spirit, practical improvements, and renewed financial stability.

5. Financial Review

The Trust has continued to monitor its finances and maintain appropriate oversight of its financial commitments.

The Trustees have investigated more environmentally friendly forms of energy for the building. These plans are on hold pending conclusion of the works to Winding Lake.

Insurance has been an area of attention. Updated valuations of the building have been obtained to support the review of insurance cover and the securing of appropriate quotations and coverage. The Trust has also considered its responsibilities in relation to Martyn's Law and the implications for the operation of the Village Hall.

Discussions with the Co-op concerning the shop lease, insurance recharges and associated liabilities have continued, with progress being made towards renewing the arrangements.

The financial position of the Trust has been maintained improved this year due to the continued contributions from The Pilton Stage and continued community support. The Treasurer's report deals with this in more detail. The key points are:

- The Trust had funds of £30,567.79 at the end of the financial year
- Income of £24,220.03 against outgoings of £20,328.51.

That is an operating surplus of £3,896.52.

It should be noted also that this operating surplus includes contributions from 1) the Co-Op in respect of sales made at its festival site shop and 2) The Pilton Party which will not be received in the next financial year as a result of 2026 GFEL fallow year.

The Trustees continue to manage the Trust's funds prudently, building appropriate reserves to support ongoing maintenance and to invest in further improvements to the building.

6. Plans for the Future

Looking ahead, the Trustees intend to:

- Continue with redecoration and upgrading floor coverings;
- Review and update furniture where needed;
- Further explore options for reducing heating and lighting costs;
- Make the property more environmentally friendly; and
- Maintain the strong partnership with The Pilton Stage to ensure their success which in turn supports the long-term sustainability and vibrancy of the Village Hall.

7. Public Benefit

The Trustees confirm that they have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit in planning the Trust's activities.

The Hall continues to provide a valued and accessible space for local residents, community groups, and social events, promoting wellbeing, connection, and inclusion within the village.

8. Acknowledgements

The Trustees once again wish to express their sincere thanks to TPSL, all volunteers, user groups, and members of the local community who have supported and contributed to the Hall's success over the past year.

Their combined efforts continue to make a real difference and the Trustees are pleased to see the Village Hall being at the heart of the village once again.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees by:

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Andy Richards
Chair of Trustees