

Pilton Village Trust

Annual Report of the Trustees

For the Year Ended 29 November 2025

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:

- Terrance Moulder (Chair)
- Joanna Thoms (Vice Chair)
- Andrew Richards (Secretary) (Co-opted)
- Alan Ayres
- Audrey Brown
- John Broxup
- Tracy Mapstone
- Kelly Sumner

Treasurer - Joseph Marcangelo-Lyons

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.”

During this year, the Trustees focused on supporting The Pilton Stage, to ensure the building is suitable for running events, hospitality and supporting village groups from the Hall. This partnership has reinvigorated the building and increased community engagement while generating income after costs for the Trust for first time in sufficient to make a significant financial contribution to the trust.

4. Achievements and Performance

The past year has seen substantial progress through close cooperation between the Trustees and The Pilton Stage team. Together, we have improved the Hall facilities, and enhanced its contribution to village life.

Key achievements include:

- The Hall is now open six days a week and well used by the community.
- User groups have been retained and expanded, with new additions including skittle teams.
- Tea and coffee are now provided for user groups.
- Food service has been successfully reintroduced on Thursdays, Fridays, and Sunday lunchtimes.
- Five Star Food Hygiene Rating achieved.
- Sound limiter reinstalled, ensuring better noise control and happier neighbours.
- Ongoing collaboration with Environmental Health has ensured we are good neighbours, with a dramatic reduction in complaints.
- Front windows replaced with acoustic glass to reduce sound escape.
- A new website and social media channels launched to promote opening hours and events.
- The building was brought up to current fire safety standards, and all electrical safety checks completed.
- Roof repairs carried out following storm damage.
- Kitchen appliances tested and non-functioning items replaced.
- Installation of a new CCTV system with additional cameras.
- The heating system repaired and restored to full function.
- Bar and landing areas redecorated.
- Additional storage space created for user groups.
- The operation has created employment for three local residents.

Even with the investment needed to achieve all of the above, the Trust received a financial contribution from The Pilton Stage — a first in recent memory. The Pilton Stage has developed its Long Term Plan to ensure that progress in furthering the Trust's objects continues whilst still maintaining a contribution to the Trust, even during the Festival's fallow year to come.

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 financial position of the Trust has improved this year due to the first 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 £26,458.05 at the end of the financial year
- Income of £16,713.23 against outgoings of £19,651.76.

That is a shortfall of £2,938.53. However that deficit is exceptional as expenditure has been higher in this financial year as a result mainly of:

- essential maintenance, safety improvements, and repairs, including work on the roof, windows, heating, and electrical systems.
- improving the decor of the most used areas of the building.

There were also exceptional legal fees of £3,840 (which accounted for more than the total deficit). These were in a large part caused by the need to answer questions from the Charity Commission as a result of questions put to the Charity Commission by anonymous members of the public. Those questions related to the appointment of The Pilton Stage.

The Charity Commission was given copies of all relevant contracts, legal advice and documents and is content with the current position. It is hoped that this type of expenditure will not occur in the next financial year as it is a very significant draw down on the Trust's funds, particularly when considering the likely future capital spend needed for the Village Hall.

In the meantime the Trustees continue to manage the Trust's funds prudently, maintaining 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;
- 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 wish to express their sincere thanks to The Pilton Stage team, 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 have made a real difference and set a strong foundation for the future.

Approved by the Trustees on
and signed on their behalf by:

Chair of Trustees