BHVH Financial Situation

In the light of increasing our hiring fees, we wanted to respond to some comments we've heard lately that "The village Hall has loads of money". What is the implication? That we hold more capital than is appropriate? That our income far exceeds our expenditure, allowing us to add to capital? Or that we should reduce our hiring rates?

The village Hall has charity status. As charity trustees, we are obliged to report financial information to the Charity Commission every year. This year, before we filed, we had an independent examination of our accounts carried out. We also held, as we have done in previous years, a meeting for anyone in the community to attend, to understand our financials. So this information is in the public domain, not a secret. In case you couldn't attend that meeting, these are our turnover and Profit & Loss figures.

Financial year 1st June 2022 to 31st May 2023					
	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	Total
Target Quarterly Income	*£7,255.00*	*£6,455.00*	*£6,665.00*	*£5,965.00*	*£26,340.00*
Actual Quarterly Income	*£8,006.30*	*£10,888.74*	*£14,797.24*	*£11,391.68*	*£45,083.96*
Target Quarterly Expenditure	£5,842.51	£6,052.51	£5,929.51	£5,942.51	£23,767.04
Actual Expenditure	£8,460.94	£9,910.60	£11,311.80	£14,713.75	£44,397.09
Target Profit/Loss	£1,412.49	£402.49	£735.49	£22.49	£2,572.96
Actual Profit/Loss	-£454.64	£978.14	£3,485.44	-£3,322.07	£686.87

During this financial year, we didn't have a separate Improvements budget. In quarter four, we paid for the new stage curtains and the entrance hall carpet, which explains the significant loss in that quarter. This year we have budgeted separately for improvements.

At most times, we hold approximately £35k- £40k in capital. This has been built up over many years of careful management, fundraising and generous donations. It's there for several reasons:

1. Provision for emergencies we can't foresee, for example when the hall was affected by flooding last year. Funds to replace the floor will be covered by insurance. Funds of over £5,000 which were required to install a much-improved drainage system, were not.
2. We retain capital for expenditure we hope doesn't emerge but may well be needed. The heating system is 15 years old and despite being regularly serviced, is not working well. To replace it will be a major cost.
3. Finally, when we judge it appropriate, we use capital for improvements, such as the large TV in the meeting room, and new stage curtains. We have further improvement projects identified, but these are on hold for now.

BHVH is managed by a team of voluntary trustees for you, the people of our three villages. We hope you can see that, far from having "Loads of money", we manage our P&L tightly, and retain capital appropriate for a charity with a turnover of just under £50,000 and a building which cost over £500,000.