



Standard conditions of hire

### **Age**

The Hirer, not being a person under 18 years of age, hereby accepts responsibility for being in charge of and on the premises at all times when the public are present and for ensuring that all conditions, under this Agreement, relating to management and supervision of the premises are met.

### **Supervision**

The Hirer shall, during the period of the hiring, be responsible for: supervision of the premises, the fabric and contents, their care, safety from damage, however slight or change of any sort; and the behaviour of all persons using the premises whatever their capacity, including proper supervision of car parking arrangements so as to avoid obstruction to the highway. As directed by the Booking Officer, the Hirer shall make good or pay for all damage (including accidental damage) to the premises or the fixtures, fittings or contents and for the loss of contents.

### **Use of premises**

The Hirer shall not use the premises for any purpose other than that described in the Hiring Agreement and shall not sub-hire or use the premises or allow the premises to be used for any unlawful purpose or in any unlawful way nor do anything or bring onto the premises anything which may endanger the same or render invalid any insurance policies in respect thereof nor allow the consumption of alcohol thereon without written permission.

### **Gaming, betting and lotteries**

The Hirer shall ensure that nothing is done or in relation to the premises in contravention of the law relating to gaming, betting and lotteries.

### **Licensable activities**

The hirer shall ensure that the VHMC holds a Performing Rights Society License which permits the use of copyright music in any form, e.g. record, compact disc, tapes, radio, and television or by performers in person. If other licenses are required in respect of any activity in the village hall the Hirer should ensure that they hold the relevant license or that the VHMC holds it.

### **Public safety compliances**

The Hirer shall comply with all conditions and regulations made in respect of the premises by the Local Authority, the Licensing Authority the hall's Fire Risk Assessment or otherwise, particularly in connection with any event which constitutes regulated entertainment, at which alcohol is sold or provided or which is attended by children. The Hirer shall also comply with the hall's health and safety policy. The Hirer acknowledges that they have received instruction on the following matters:

The action to be taken in the event of fire. This includes calling the Fire Brigade and evacuating the hall. The location and use of fire equipment (advise of location at key handover). Escape routes and the need to keep them clear. Method of operation of escape door fastenings. Appreciation of the importance of any fire doors and of closing all fire doors at the time of a fire In advance of an entertainment or play the Hirer shall check the following items:

- That all fire exits are unlocked and panic bolts are in good working order
- That all escape routes are free of obstruction and can be safely used
- That any fire doors are not wedged open
- That exit signs are illuminated

- That there is no obvious fire hazards on the premises.

### **Means of escape**

All means of exit from the premises must be kept free from obstruction and immediately available for instant free public exit.

The emergency lighting supply illuminating all exit signs and routes must be turned on during the whole of the time the premises are occupied (if not operated by an automatic mains failure switching device).

### **Outbreaks of fire**

The Fire Brigade shall be called to any outbreak of fire, however slight and details thereof shall be given to the Booking Officer or the VHMC.

### **Health and Hygiene**

The Hirer shall if preparing, serving or selling food, observe all relevant food and hygiene legislation and regulations. In particular dairy products, vegetable and meat on the premises must be refrigerated and stored in compliance with the Food Temperature Regulations. The premises are not provided with a thermometer.

### **Electrical appliance safety**

The Hirer shall ensure that any electrical appliances brought by them to the premises and used there shall be safe, in good working order, and used in a safe manner in accordance with the Electricity at Work Regulations 1989.

### **Insurance and indemnity**

The Village Hall is insured against any claims arising out of its own negligence.

The Hirer shall be liable for:

- i. the cost of repair of any damage (including accidental and malicious damage) done to any part of the premises including the contents,
- ii. all claims, losses, damages and costs made against or incurred by the VHMC, their employees, volunteers, agents or invitees in respect of damage or loss of property or injury to persons arising as a result of the use of the premises (including the storage of equipment) by the Hirer,
- iii. all claims, losses damages and costs made against or incurred by the VHMC, their employees, volunteers, agents or invitees as a result of any nuisance caused to a third party as a result of the use of the premises by the Hirer, and subject to sub-clause (b), the Hirer shall indemnify and keep indemnified accordingly each member of the VHMC and the VH employees, volunteers, agents and invitees against such liabilities.
- iv. The hirer must ensure, that if inflatables are used on the premises, their own insurance or those of their supplier provides adequate cover. Agreement from the VHMC must be sought in advance of booking such inflatables.

The VHMC shall take out adequate insurance to insure the liabilities described in sub-clause (a)(i) above and may, in its discretion and in the case of non commercial hirers, insure the liabilities described in the sub-clause (a)(ii) and (iii) above. The VHMC shall claim on its insurance for any liability of the Hirer hereunder but the Hirer shall indemnify and keep indemnified each member of the VHMC and the VH employees, volunteers, agents and invitees against (a) any insurance excess incurred and (b) the difference between the amount of the liability and the monies received under the insurance policy.

Where the VHMC does not insure the liabilities described in sub-clause (a)(ii) and (iii) above, the Hirer shall take out adequate insurance to insure such liability and on demand shall produce the policy and current receipt or other evidence of cover to the Booking Manager. Failure to produce such policy and evidence of cover will render the hiring void and will enable the Booking Manager to rehire the premises.

### **Accidents and dangerous occurrences**

The Hirer must report all accidents involving injury to the public to a member of the

VHMC as soon as possible and complete the relevant section of the Village Hall's accident book.

Any failure of equipment belonging to the VH or brought in by the Hirer must also be reported as soon as possible. Certain types of accident or injury must be reported on a special form to the local authority. The Booking Officer will give assistance in completing this form. This is in accordance with the Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 1995 (RIDDOR).

#### **Explosives and flammable substances**

The Hirer shall ensure that:

Highly flammable substances are not brought into, or used in, any part of the premises and that no internal decorations of a combustible nature (e.g. polystyrene, cotton wool) shall be erected without the consent of the VHMC. No decorations are to be put up near the light fittings or heaters.

#### **Heating**

The Hirer shall ensure that no unauthorised heating appliances shall be used on the premises when open to the public without consent of the VHMC. Portable Liquefied Propane Gas (LPG) heating appliances shall not be used.

#### **Drunk and disorderly behaviour and the supply of illegal drugs**

The Hirer shall ensure that in order to avoid disturbing neighbours to the hall and avoid violent or criminal behaviour; care shall be taken to avoid excessive consumption of alcohol. Drunk and disorderly behaviour shall not be permitted either on the premises or in its immediate vicinity. Alcohol shall not be served to any person suspected of being drunk, nor to any person suspected of being under the age of 18. Any person suspected of being drunk under the influence of drugs or who is behaving in a violent or disorderly way shall be asked to leave the premises. No illegal drugs may be bought on the premises.

#### **Animals**

The Hirer shall ensure that no animals (including birds) except guide dogs are brought into the premises, other than for a special event agreed by the VHMC. No animals whatsoever are to enter the kitchen at any time.

#### **Compliance with the Children Act 1989**

The Hirer shall ensure that any activities for children under the age of eight years comply with the provision of the Act, and that only fit and proper persons, who have passed the appropriate Criminal Records Bureau checks, have access to the children. Checks may also apply where children over eight and vulnerable adults are taking part in activities. The Hirer shall provide the VHMC with a copy of the CRB check and Child Protection Policy upon request.

#### **Fly posting**

The Hirer shall not carry out or permit fly posting or any other form of unauthorised advertisements for any event taking place at the premises, and shall keep indemnified each member of the VHMC accordingly against all actions, claims and proceedings arising from any breach of this condition. Failure to observe this condition may lead to prosecution by the local authority.

#### **Sale of goods**

The Hirer shall, if selling goods on the premises, comply with Fair Trading Laws and any code of practice used in connection with such sales. In particular, the Hirer shall ensure that the total prices of all goods and services are prominently displayed as shall be the organisers name and contact details and that any discounts offered are based only on the Manufacturers' Recommended Retail Prices.

#### **Film shows**

Children shall be restricted from viewing age-restricted films classified according to the recommendations of the British Board of Film Classification. Hirers should ensure that they have the appropriate copyright licences for film.

### **Cancellation**

If the Hirer wishes to cancel the booking before the date of the event and the Booking Officer is unable to conclude a replacement booking, the question of the payment or the repayment of the fee shall be at the discretion of the VHMC. The VHMC reserves the right to cancel any hiring by written notice to the Hirer in the event of:

The premises being required for use as a Polling Station for a Parliamentary or Local Government election or by-election

The VHMC reasonably considering that (i) such hiring will lead to a breach of licensing conditions, if applicable, or other legal or statutory requirements, or (ii) unlawful or unsuitable activities will take place at the premises

The premises becoming unfit for the use of the intended Hirer

An emergency requiring the use of the premises as a shelter for the victims of flooding, snow storms, fire, explosion or those at risk of these or similar disasters.

In any such case the Hirer should be entitled to a refund of any deposit already paid, but the VHMC shall not be liable to the Hirer for any resulting direct or indirect loss or damages whatsoever.

### **End of hire**

The Hirer shall be responsible for leaving the premises and surrounding area in a clean and tidy condition, properly locked and secured unless directed otherwise and any contents temporarily removed from their usual positions properly replaced, otherwise the VHMC shall be at liberty to make an additional charge. (In particular, the stacking of tables and chairs as indicated)

### **Noise**

The Hirer shall ensure that the minimum of noise is made on arrival and departure, particularly late at night and early in the morning, the Hirer shall comply with any other licensing condition for the premises.

### **Stored equipment**

The VHMC accepts no responsibility for any stored equipment or other property brought on to or left at the premises, and all liability for loss or damage is hereby excluded. All equipment and other property (other than stored equipment) must be removed at the end of each hiring or fees will be charged for each day or part of a day at the hire fee per hiring until the same is removed. If any property is left after 7 days without prior agreement, The VHMC reserve the right to dispose of such property and a charge may be levied for all costs incurred.

### **No alterations**

No alterations or additions may be made to the premises nor may any fixtures be installed or placards, decorations or other articles be attached in any way to any part of the premises without prior written approval of the Booking Officer. Any alteration, fixture or fitting or attachment so approved shall, at the discretion of the VHMC, remain in the premises at the end of the hiring. It will become the property of the VHMC unless removed by the hirer who must make good to the satisfaction of the VHMC or if any damage is caused to the premises by such removal.

### **No rights**

The Hiring Agreement constitutes permission only to use the premises and confers no tenancy or other right of occupation on the Hirer.

### **Dangerous and unsuitable performance**

Performances involving danger to the public or of a sexually explicit nature shall not be allowed.

### **COVID 19**

Hirers must adhere to Government Regulations and adopt a sensible approach to safety, ensuring frequently used surfaces are wiped after use.