Notes:

1. The Committee is the Management Committee of Horton Village Hall.
2. The use of the masculine infers the feminine and vice versa
3. If the hirer is in any doubt as to the meaning of these conditions the booking secretary of Horton Village Hall should be consulted prior to any signature being appended.



Horton Village Hall

Hire Agreement and Conditions of Hire

Horton Village Hall
Broadway Hill
Horton
Nr Ilminster

Phone: 07979 773984
E-mail: hortonvhbookings@googlemail.com
Website: www.hortonvillage.co.uk

Standard conditions of hire

These standard conditions apply to all hiring of the Horton Village Hall. If the Hirer is in any doubt as to the meaning of the following, the Booking Secretary should immediately be consulted on 07979 773984

1. **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.

2. **Supervision**
   The Hirer will only occupy and use those areas contracted for and will, during the period of the hiring, be responsible for the supervision of the premises, the fabric and the 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. This includes proper supervision of car parking arrangements so as to avoid obstruction and minimise risk of accidents or damage to vehicles. As directed by the Booking Secretary, the Hirer shall make good or pay for all damage (including accidental damage) to the premises or to the fixtures, fittings or contents and for loss of contents.

3. **Use of premises**
   The Hirer shall not use the premises for any purpose other than that specified 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 there of, nor allow the consumption of alcohol thereon without written permission.

4. **Gaming, betting and lotteries**
   The Hirer shall ensure that nothing is done on or in relation to the premises in contravention of the law relating to gaming, betting and lotteries including Bingo and other games of chance.

5. **Licensable activities**
   The Hirer shall ensure that the Village Hall holds a Performing Society Right Licence which permits the use of copyright music in any form, e.g. record, compact disc, tapes, radio, television or by performers in person. If other licences are required in respect of any activity in the Village Hall the Hirer should ensure that they hold the relevant licence or the Village Hall holds it.

6. Public safety compliance

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.

(a) The Hirer acknowledges that they have received instruction in the following matters:

1 The action to be taken in event of fire. This includes calling the Fire Brigade and evacuating the hall. 2 The location and use of fire equipment. (Include diagram of location when handing over keys.) 3 Escape routes and the need to keep them clear.

4 Method of operation of escape door fastenings.

5 Appreciation of the importance of any fire doors and of closing all fire doors at the time of a fire.

(b) In advance of an entertainment or play the Hirer shall check the following items:

1 That all fire exits are unlocked and panic bolts in good working order.

2 That all escape routes are free of obstruction and can be safely used.

3 That any fire doors are not wedged open.

4 That exit signs are illuminated.

5 That there are no obvious fire hazards on the premises.

7. Means of escape

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

(b) 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).

8. Outbreaks of fire

The Fire Brigade shall be called to any outbreak of fire, however slight, and details thereof shall be given to the Secretary of the Management Committee.

9. Health and hygiene

The Hirer shall, if preparing, serving or selling food, observe all relevant food health and hygiene legislation and regulations. In particular dairy products, vegetables and meat on the premises must be refrigerated and stored in compliance with the Food Temperature Regulations. The premises *are* fitted with a refrigerator and thermometer.

10. 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. Where a residual circuit breaker is provided the hirer **must** make use of it in the interests of public safety.

11. Insurance and indemnity

(a) 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 curtilage thereof or the contents of the premises

(ii) all claims, losses, damages and costs made against or incurred by the Village Hall Management Committee, 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, and

(iii) all claims, losses, damages and costs made against or incurred by the Village Hall Management Committee, 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 Village Hall Management Committee and the Village Hall's employees, volunteers, agents and invitees against such liabilities.

(b) The Village Hall shall take out adequate insurance to insure the liabilities described in sub-clauses (a)(i) above and may, in its discretion and in the case of non commercial hirers, insure the liabilities described in sub-clauses (a) (ii) and (iii) above. The Village Hall shall claim on its insurance for any liability of the Hirer hereunder but the Hirer shall indemnify and keep indemnified each member of the Village Hall management committee and the Village Hall's 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.

(c) Where the Village Hall does not insure the liabilities described in sub-clauses (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 Village Hall Secretary or Booking Secretary. Failure to produce such policy and evidence of cover will render the hiring void and enable the Booking Secretary to rehire the premises to another hirer.

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

12. Accidents and dangerous occurrences

The Hirer must report all accidents involving injury to the public to a member of the Village Hall Management Committee **as soon as possible** (contact details posted on Notice Board in Entrance Hall) and complete the relevant section of the Horton Village Hall Accident Book. Any failure of equipment belonging to Horton Village Hall or brought in by the Hirer, must be reported **as soon as possible**. Certain types of accident or injury must be reported on a special form to the Incident Contact Centre. The Hall's Booking Secretary will give assistance in completing this form. This is in accordance with the Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 1995 (RIDDOR). The Incident Contact Centre can be contacted in any of the following ways:

- Telephone: 0845 3009923
- Facsimile: 0845 3009924
- Website: www.riddor.gov.uk or via the HSE website: www.hse.gov.uk
- Post: Incident Contact Centre, Caerphilly Business Park, Caerphilly CF83 3GG

13. Explosives and flammable substances The hirer shall ensure that:

a) Highly flammable substances are not brought into, or used in any part of the premises and that

b) No internal decorations of a combustible nature (e.g. polystyrene, cotton wool) shall be erected without the consent of the management committee. No decorations are to be put up near light fittings or heaters.

14. Heating

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

15. Drunk and disorderly behaviour and 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 brought onto the premises.

16. 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 to by the Village Hall Management Committee. No animals whatsoever are to enter the kitchen at any time.

17. Compliance with the Children Act 1989

The Hirer shall ensure that any activities for children under eight years of age comply with the provisions of The Children Act of 1989 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 Village Hall Management Committee with a copy of their CRB check and Child Protection Policy on request.

18. 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 indemnify and keep indemnified each member of the Village Hall's Management Committee 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.

19. 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 organiser's name and address and that any discounts offered are based only on Manufacturers' Recommended Retail Prices.

20. 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.

21. Cancellation

If the Hirer wishes to cancel the booking before the date of the event and the Village Hall 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 Village Hall. The Village Hall reserves the right to cancel this hiring by written notice to the Hirer in the event of:

(a) the premises being required for use as a Polling Station for a Parliamentary or Local Government election or by-election
(b) the Village Hall Management Committee 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 as a result of this hiring
(c) the premises becoming unfit for the use intended by the Hirer
(d) an emergency requiring use of the premises as a shelter for the victims of flooding, snowstorm, fire, explosion or those at risk of these or similar disasters.

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

22. End of hire

The Hirer shall be responsible for leaving the premises and surrounding areas by the expiration of the time of hire and its grounds 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 Committee shall be at liberty to make an additional charge. The Hirer shall remove all rubbish, bottles and the like resulting from the hiring. Failure to do so may result in a surcharge. Unsold items from sales are not to be stored in the hall without prior permission from the Committee.

23. 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, if using sound amplification equipment, make use of any noise limitation device provided at the premises and comply with any other licensing condition for the premises.

24. Stored equipment

The Village Hall 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. The Village Hall may, use its discretion in any of the following circumstances:

(a) Failure by the Hirer either to pay any charges in respect of stored equipment due and payable or to remove the same within 7 days after the agreed storage period has ended

(b) Failure by the Hirer to dispose of any property brought on to the premises for the purposes of the hiring. This may result in the Village Hall Management Committee disposing of any such items by sale or otherwise on such terms and conditions as it thinks fit, and charge the Hirer any costs incurred in storing and selling or otherwise disposing of the same.

25. 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 the prior written approval of the Booking Secretary. Any alteration, fixture or fitting or attachment so approved shall at the discretion of the Village Hall remain in the premises at the end of the hiring. It will become the property of the Village Hall unless removed by the Hirer who must make good to the satisfaction of the hall or, if any damage caused to the premises by such removal.

26. No rights

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

27. Dangerous and unsuitable performances

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

28. Smoking

The Hirer shall, and shall ensure that the Hirer's invitees, comply with the prohibition of smoking in public places provisions of the Health Act 2006 and regulations made there under. Any person who breaches this provision shall be asked to leave the premises. The Village Hall Management Committee reserve the right to make a charge for cleaning costs if there is any smoke damage to the fabric of the hall as a result of this infringement. There is a designated smoking area outside and near to the entrance to the hall.