

**ST JOHN'S (KINGSDOWN) VILLAGE HALL, UPPER STREET, KINGSDOWN, DEAL,  
KENT, CT14 8BJ**

Registered Charity Number 302777

**FULL FIRE RISK ASSESSMENT 5<sup>th</sup> March 2020  
Date of next full review March 2021**

The Village Hall Trustees are collectively the '**responsible person**'.

**A. This Fire Risk Assessment** has been carried out with regard to The Regulatory Reform (Fire safety) Order 2005, which took effect in England and Wales in October 2006, and recommendations from the Kent Fire and Rescue visit to the hall on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2012.

**The aim** of this assessment is to highlight and thus reduce the risks of fire to protect all hall users.

A Fire Safety Folder is kept on the premises.

This Risk Assessment is available on our website [www.kingsdownvillagehall.org.uk](http://www.kingsdownvillagehall.org.uk)

**Plans of the building *to scale*** are displayed in the hall, with **two exit routes** and the location of fire extinguishers clearly marked. The Fire plan was revised and updated in February 2020. There are two entrances / exits from the hall which can be used in the event of an emergency – the main front doors and a rear fire exit on the left side of the hall near the ladies toilets.

**There is no step free access to the hall.**; new signage was affixed to the gate from Upper Street and on the wall by the emergency fire exit. Hirers are specifically asked in the hire agreement if there is anyone in their group who would be disadvantaged. Alternative venues can be suggested to the hirer.

**Hirers** (both regular users and private bookings) are made aware of the **Fire Risk** policy and the **Health and Safety** policy in operation at the hall when they sign the 'Conditions of Hire' contract (copy available in the Fire Safety Folder and on the website).

**Fires require three things to start**

- **Fuel** – flammable fluids (solvents) and flammable chemicals (cleaning products), soft furnishings (curtains, seating), stationary and rubbish.
- **Ignition** – faulty electrics, light fittings, portable kitchen appliances, cooking equipment, room heaters, central heating boilers etc
- **Oxygen in the air** – close doors to reduce the risk as much as possible

**Fire safety procedures** are explained at the start of any public events.

A **Hazard** has the potential to cause harm. A **Risk** is the chance of that harm occurring.

## **B. Fire fighting equipment provided on the premises (see plan)**

- One Class A Water extinguisher in the Main Hall mounted on the wall by main doors (for use on paper, wood and textiles)
- One CO<sub>2</sub> extinguisher in the Main Hall mounted on the wall by main doors (for use on flammable liquids and electrical fires)
- **One Class A Water extinguisher mounted on the wall in the Lobby Entrance (for use on paper, wood and textiles)**
- One 2kg dry powder extinguisher in the Kitchen mounted on the wall by the door (for use on flammable liquids and electrical fires)
- One fire blanket in the Kitchen

KCC Inspection services: Stephen Harkness 01622 237019 (office); 07876 356592 (mobile)  
[info@inspectionsservices.org.uk](mailto:info@inspectionsservices.org.uk) **completed 18<sup>th</sup> December 2019; next due 18<sup>th</sup> Dec 2020**

## **Fire fighting policy on the premises**

Manual alarm bell in main hall

Running man signs displayed

Fire Detection and alarm - new system installed Sept 2010 (including smoke detectors). Checked and recorded regularly

**All internal doors must be closed when the hall is unoccupied.**

**Records** are kept in the Fire Safety folder in the labeled kitchen cupboard:-

- Monthly check of both exits (to ensure the doors open freely)
- Monthly fire alarm testing (BS5839)
- Monthly Visual check of fire extinguisher
- Monthly check of defibrillator battery and pads, and circuit to cabinet by notice board
- Monthly emergency lighting check
- Annual fire extinguisher check; **completed Dec 2019; next due Dec 2020**
- Copies of certificates for the periodic inspection of gas appliances (6 radiators and the boiler) **Completed 18<sup>th</sup> Feb 2020; next due half term Feb 2021**
- Copies of PAT (portable appliance tests) for electrical equipment – **checked December 2019 next due Dec 2020**

## **C. FIRE RISK ASSESSMENTS**

### **C1 ON THE FORECOURT**

Fire exit route - clear

Wooden Playhouse and Store – no fire risk

Rubbish in bags near the road – check daily

Cigarette Disposal box is located on the wall in the front forecourt. No smoking signs are displayed in the main forecourt.

Defibrillator battery and pads, and circuit to cabinet by notice board – no fire risk.

### **C2 IN THE ENTRANCE LOBBY**

There is no fire risk in the entrance lobby. The notice boards are made of fire retardant felt (new August 2013) except for the one at the top of the stairs.

No smoking signs are displayed on the main doors and all notice boards.  
One Class A Water extinguisher mounted on the wall in the Lobby Entrance (for use on paper, wood and textiles).  
Leaflets are stored in dedicated storage displays.

### **C3 IN THE LOWER HALL**

No smoking signs are displayed on the fire proof door.  
Chairs - new in 2009, so materials assumed to be fire retardant and risk reduced due to smoking ban  
Kettle PAT tested December 2019; **next check due December 2020**

### **C4 IN THE MAIN HALL**

No smoking signs are displayed on every door.  
One Class A Water extinguisher in the Main Hall mounted on the wall by main doors (for use on paper, wood and textiles).  
One CO<sub>2</sub> extinguisher in the Main Hall mounted on the wall by main doors (for use on flammable liquids and electrical fires).  
Wiring new in 2010 and checked in 2016 - Certificates in H+S / Fire safety folder.  
Wires located in trunking (August 2013).

- Chairs - new in 2009, so materials assumed to be fire retardant. Risk reduced due to smoking ban. Stored neatly in dedicated storage area. Sign/notice provided giving stacking guidance of max 8 chairs per stack. Spare chairs – contact Trustees.
- Toddler equipment - Stored neatly in dedicated storage area. Risk reduced due to smoking ban.
- Pre-School Cupboard - Tidy cupboard, but contents require reducing where possible. Risk reduced due to smoking ban
- General Store Cupboard - Tidy cupboard, but contents require reducing where possible. Risk reduced due to smoking ban.
- Mezzanine Area Furniture - Chairs - new in 2009, so materials assumed to be fire retardant. Risk reduced due to smoking ban.
- Preschool's bookcase – ensure contents are stored tidily in the bookcase and not on the floor which would present a trip hazard.

### **C5 IN THE CLEANER'S CUPBOARD, MAIN HALL**

Cupboard is kept locked.  
Notice of contents provided on inside of door - toilet rolls and inflammable cleaning solutions  
All chemicals are stored upright.  
COSHH Safety Sheets for bleach, toilet and all-purpose solutions in Health and Safety folder.

### **C6 IN THE KITCHEN**

Risk Assessment Folders - placed in labelled cupboard.  
One 2kg dry powder extinguisher (for use on flammable liquids and electrical fires)  
**Checked December 2019 next check due December 2020**  
One fire blanket  
Notice displayed - Do not store flammable items on top of microwave or below the boiler.  
Kitchen has a fire door; hatch has a plasterboard door with a fire resistant lining

Microwave (new on 24/11/2015), two fridges, urn, insect killer, cooker hood, toaster, oven, electric hob (new in Feb 2016) and kettle - PAT (portable appliance test) passed September 2016  
**Checked December 2019; next check due December 2020**

Boiler Landlord's gas safety check by British Gas 18<sup>th</sup> February 2020 **next inspection February 2021**

Bins/Rubbish All users to remove rubbish and take away: weekly check required by a Trustee.

### **C7 IN THE TOILETS AND REAR LOBBY**

There is no fire risk in the toilets

### **C8 IN THE CLEANER'S CUPBOARD, REAR LOBBY**

Cupboard is kept locked.

Hoover and brooms kept in cupboard – no fire risk.

### **C9 ELECTRICAL SAFETY**

Electrical Equipment PAT testing required annually

**Checked December 2019; next check due December 2020**

**Hoover PAT tested and passed December 2019; next check due December 2020**

**PA Equipment** New in 2012, PAT tested and passed December 2019; **next check due December 2020**

**Wiring** - new in August 2010. Annual visual check OK

Professional check due every 5 years (certificates in H+S folder) Roof space rewired July 2015

**Due July 2021**

**Emergency Lighting** - new in August 2010. Annual visual check OK

External Emergency Lighting installed April 2013; checked and passed December 2019 **next check due December 2020**

### **C10 GAS SAFETY**

British Gas Contract – in file in kitchen cupboard; **checked half term February 2020; next check half term February 2021**

### **C11 REAR SIDE EXIT**

On hearing the manual alarm bell, you should close all internal doors and proceed to the nearest fire exit following the running man signs. Exiting the rear door, walk down the fire escape steps to the forecourt and muster in front of the forecourt fence along the wall; take a roll call or head count to ensure no one is left inside and phone the emergency services. Do not re-enter the building until told that it is safe to do so by the fire service.

**Fire Action Notices** are placed in the hall.

**Exterior Letter Box**: Metal (to reduce the risk of arson)