

# **OLD TOWN HALL**

## **CONDITIONS OF HIRE**

### **1. DEFINITIONS**

- (a) The **HIRER** shall include the person signing the Booking Application Form and/or the organisation on whose behalf such application was made.
- (b) The **COUNCIL** shall include its officers, servants or agents or any persons authorised by them.

### **2. PURPOSE**

- (a) The Hirer shall use the hall for the purpose stated on the booking form only, and for no other purpose whatsoever. The times as stated on the booking form must be adhered to.
- (b) The Hirer shall not sub-let the hall, or any part thereof, without the written agreement of the Council.

### **3. SUPERVISION**

The Hirer or person in charge of the function/event shall not be under 18 years of age and shall be on the premises for the entire period of hire or duration of the event. Additional stewards may be required depending on the nature of the event and the numbers expected to attend.

### **4. CAPACITY**

- (a) The capacity for the Old Town Hall is 50 for fire regulation reasons.

**The Authorised Person is responsible for ensuring that the maximum number of persons permitted to be in the Old Town Hall at any one time is not exceeded.**

### **5. HEALTH & SAFETY**

The Hirer should undertake a risk assessment to quantify hazards, which might arise during the event and devise procedures to minimise any hazard. In addition, the Hirer is responsible for ensuring that all activities comply with the requirements of the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974.

**Smoking and vaping are not permitted in any part of the building at any time.**

**Real flames and artificial smoke are prohibited.**

### **6. GOOD ORDER**

The Hirer shall be responsible for keeping good order in the hall and, if the Council directs, provide and pay for additional stewards and/or inform Police as the Council considers necessary for the proper conduct of the function. Any decision made by the Council is final and not negotiable.

**Please note: The Hirer should be aware that the hall is situated in a residential area and every reasonable precaution must be taken to prevent disturbance to occupiers of neighbouring properties, both during and after the event. The Hirer should advise their guests/ participants to leave the area of the hall in a quiet and responsible manner.**

The Council shall not be responsible for any loss or damage due to any breakdown of machinery, failure of the power supply, leakage of water or gas, fire, government restriction or Act of God which may cause the hall to be closed and the hiring interrupted or cancelled. The Hirer shall indemnify the Council against any claim which may arise out of the hiring or which may be made by any person or agent of that person who has suffered any loss, damage, injury or death whilst they were in the hall during the period of hire.

## **7. ALCOHOL AT EVENTS**

The Old Town Hall does not have a licence to sell alcohol.

## **8. PAYMENT OF THE HIRE CHARGES**

The Hirer will receive an invoice for the booking once the date has been agreed and a completed booking form submitted. A 20% deposit will then be payable. The balance must be paid at least 7 days before the event in order that it can go ahead.

**Please note: the hours you book must include any setting up and clearing away time you need**

## **9. CANCELLATIONS**

The 20% deposit is non-refundable. The balance of the hire charge is refundable unless the booking is cancelled within 7 days of the date of the event.

(b) The Council reserves the right to cancel the event and amend the conditions of hire without notice and without any liability of any kind. In the event of the Council cancelling the event any fees paid will be returned in full.

## **10. PROHIBITION OF NAILS, PLACARDS, ETC**

No nails, tacks, screws, pins, tape or other similar objects to be used in any part of the hall. No placards, decorations or other articles to be used that might cause damage to the paintwork, plaster or any other part of the fabric of the building.

## **11. REMOVAL OF HIRER'S PROPERTY**

Unless prior arrangements have been made with the Facilities Team/ Booking Clerk, all persons and equipment must be off the premises by the time stated on the booking form. The Council accepts no responsibility for any property left on the premises.

## **12. CLEANING**

The Hirer shall, at the end of the period of hire, leave the hall (including the kitchen) in a clean and orderly state. If it is not, an extra cleaning charge will be made, at the discretion of the Council. The Hirer will be responsible for the removal of all rubbish from the venue at the end of the function. A charge of £5 per hour that the venue is booked will be made against the Hirer if this Condition is not adhered to.

## **13. SECURITY FOR CONTINGENCIES**

The Council may, at any time, without stating a reason, demand, by way of letter addressed to the hirer, such security as the Council may deem necessary to cover any contingency. If such security is not forthcoming within the period stated in the letter, the Council has the right to terminate the hire.

The person signing the Booking Form will be treated by the Council as the Authorised Person. When The Authorised Person is signing the Booking Form on behalf of an Organisation, Club, Society, Association or Company he/she must have the authority to sign and bind the organisation to the Conditions of Hire.

#### **14. RIGHT OF ENTRY**

The Council reserves the right to enter any part of the hall during the period of hire.

#### **15. SAFEGUARDING OF CHILDREN AND VULNERABLE ADULTS**

Hirers are required to ensure that they have their own policies or procedures in place for the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults, including current DBS Certificates where appropriate.

The Hirer is required to ensure that children and vulnerable adults are protected at all times, by taking all reasonable steps to prevent injury, loss or damage occurring and ensuring that all necessary checks are undertaken. The Council accepts no responsibility for the user's failure to comply with these requirements. The Hirer shall provide the Council with a copy of their Child Protection Policy on request.

#### **16. ADDITIONAL HIRER RESPONSIBILITIES**

(a) The Hirer shall, during the period of hiring, be responsible for supervision of the premises, protection of the fabric and contents, 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 of the highway.

(b) The Hirer shall repay to the Council on demand the cost of re-instating or replacing any part of the hall or any property in or upon the hall which shall be damaged, destroyed, stolen or removed during the period of hire.

(e) The Hirer must report all accidents to the member of staff or a delegated person of authority so that they can be recorded in the accident book. Details required include the contact details of the injured person, the date and location of the accident, how and why the accident happened, the injury suffered and treatment given. A First Aid kit is held in the kitchen and can be supplied by the member of staff or a delegated person of authority if required.

(j) The Hirer shall be responsible for preparing and executing Personal Emergency Evacuation Plans for any disabled persons taking part or attending the event.

(k) The Hirer shall ensure that fire extinguishers are not removed from their locations or discharged unless required to fight a fire.