



# Fees & Charges 2025-26 for high-volume, regular hirers.

**Author:** M Legg (Clerk to Eynsham Parish Council) and Cllr Macken (Chairman)  
**Legislation:** The Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015  
**Summary:** Report exploring opportunities to implement a further reduction to Village Hall hire fees for high-volume, regular hirers  
**Recommendation:** To offer 15% discounts for high- volume hirers with spends greater than £4,500 per annum.

## 1. Purpose and background

The council reviewed and approved its fees and charges, including the hire fees for the village hall on 21<sup>st</sup> January 2025. As part of the decision-making process Cllr Macken agreed along with the Clerk, to meet with representatives of two of the main hirers to discuss the agreed fees and 5% discounts on offer. Other hirers were informed of the fees and discounts via email.

As part of these discussions one of the hirers enquired whether there was scope for further discounts available to the highest volume hirers.

This report makes some suggestions on potential further discounts.

## 2. High-volume hirers

There are currently three hirers deemed as regular, high-volume hirers with bookings valued over £6,000 per annum:

- Army cadets
- Bartholomew Players
- Eynsham Day Centre (Monday Club).

For the purposes of this report and any future hirers, it is suggested that a high-volume user is classified as a person/organisation whose bookings total over £4,500 and has regular bookings.

## 3. Potential discounts

	Hire income	5% discount*	10% discount	15% discount	20% discount
Army Cadets	£6,139	£5,832	£5,525	£5,218	£4,911
Bart. Players	£6,042	£5,740	£5,438	£5,136	£4,834
Day Centre	£6,284	£5,970	£5,656	£5,341	£5,027
Difference		£0	(£923)	(£1,847)	(£2,770)

\*Currently offered to all hirers with at least 10 regular bookings within 12 months

#### **4. Budget and other implications**

Any discounts will have an impact on the village hall income, and this is reflected in the table above. Since being run by EPC, the village hall continues to be subsidised by EPC and the residents' of Eynsham through the precept.

The Bartholomew Players have advised that the Village Hall remains their preferred venue and if additional discounts were available, they would book the majority, if not all bookings at the Village Hall (having previously found alternative venues for some rehearsals).

In addition, they would have no need to apply for a community grant (c£1,500-£2,500) from EPC, freeing up funds for other local, worthwhile causes.

There is potential, in the future that new or existing hirers, fall within the scope of a high-volume hirer, in which case any agreed discounts would be applicable. This may in turn make the venue more attractive and some hirers that have spread their bookings across multiple venues, may seek to bring their bookings back to the village hall.

A variation from 5% for regular hirers to up to 20% for high-volume hirers may be seen by those in the former category as unfair and disloyal, leading to unintended consequences and loss of income.

Should a proposal be made and approved, careful communications will be required.

#### **5. Recommendation**

To offer 15% discounts for high- volume hirers with spends greater than £4,500 per annum.