

Hiring Policy For St Paul's Hall

Policy

1. We welcome all in our community who will join us in our expressions of Christian faith and our facilities are for hire to those whose activities are clearly in line with the fruits of the Holy Spirit as described in the Bible at **Galatians 5 v 22 & 23.** 'the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.'
2. We will not hire the hall to groups ("excluded groups") that:
 - 2.1 promote combat (whether offensive or defensive) or could encourage those participating to subsequently join such groups; and
 - 2.1 promote atheism or have their roots in a non- Christian spirituality.
 - 2.2 carry out activities which may cause undue offense to our leadership, ministers or congregation
 - 2.3 involve animals (with the except of assistance dogs)
 - 2.4 partake in ball games or other similar activities which may damage the property

(For the avoidance of doubt this means that we would not hire to martial arts and associated groups, yoga groups and non-Christian healing groups.)

3. We reserve the right to refuse hire to groups, people or organisations.

Policy Implementation:

The Hall Booking Secretary should be able to make decisions on whether to hire or not, based on these guidelines.

In the event that the Hall Booking Secretary cannot make a decision the question of hire should be referred in the first instance to the Hall Committee for a decision and if they consider it necessary, to the PCC Standing Committee for a decision.

Hall users should be reminded of the importance of specifying clearly the nature of the activities involved.

If anyone in the church has cause to be concerned about the nature of the activities being undertaken in the Hall, this should be raised with the Hall Booking Secretary in the first instance and if the situation cannot be resolved through the Hall Booking Secretary, the concerns should be raised with the Hall Committee.

Policy should be reviewed annually.

Reviewed December 2019 by the Hall Committee and adopted by the Church Council January 2020.