

	Meeting (No)	<b>Market &amp; Town Hall Committee (2)</b>
	Date	<b>10 September 2024</b>
	Document	Ref No
	<b>Town Hall Hire Rates Review</b>	<b>MTH2/24</b>

Town Hall hire charges have not been reviewed since May 2022 and although they are comparable to other venues in the area, a further review is now due. Minor increases to the charging schedule are suggested as follows:

Room/Item	Hourly Charge Fee (£)
Hall (Community use)	£20.00 (prev £19.00)
Hall (Charity rate)	£16 (prev £15.20)
Hall (Frequent user rate)	£18.00 (prev £17.10)
Hall (Commercial use)	£23.00 (Prev £22.00)
Kitchen	£12.00 (prev £11.00)
Kitchen (Charity rate)	£9.60 (prev £8.80)
Kitchen (Frequent user rate)	£10.80 (prev £9.90)
Side Rooms	£12.00 (prev £11.00)
Side Rooms (Charity rate)	£9.60 (prev £8.80)
Side Rooms (Frequent user rate)	£10.80 (prev £9.90)

### Discretionary rates

The 20% reduced charity rate is applied for unincorporated groups and registered charities or where the proposed use demonstrates a clear benefit for the community or to the town centre.

The 10% reduced frequent user rate applies to hirers using the hall for 15 hours plus each month. This reduction cannot be used in conjunction with the charity rate and does not apply to the commercial hire rate.

### For consideration

To discuss the suggested revised rates and agree a Town Hall charging schedule to be implemented on 01.04.25. The reason for this future date is:

- A number of bookings have been accepted for later in the year and quoted at the current rates.
- To allow group leaders time to give participants notice of any increases to their session charges, as a result of increased hire rates.
- Some groups state a cost per year/term, sometimes paid up front, for participants which may then leave a shortfall for the payment of increased hire rates if the increase is applied too soon.
- To allow for groups that may have applied for funding for the current financial year, based on the current charging rates, to still be able to fund their sessions.

**To note**

That a key deposit, previously used for regular hirers, is no longer applied therefore the only long-standing regular hirer who has paid a key deposit of £20 is Neston Karate.

**Nicky McMahon****Market & Town Hall Manager**