



Getting Legal: A New KVH Organisation

We re-organised to make the Charity Commission happy



A Bit of History

As you may remember, we were having problems because everyone appointed to the Village Hall Committee **automatically** became “Trustees” of the Charity with all the legal implications that entails. This is an unavoidable implication of the Hall’s charity Constitution.

Also the Hall’s Charity documents wanted us to have 10 Trustees and that’s a difficult target.

Sarah to the Rescue

So, Sarah Lofthouse (Chair), who has a lot of experience in administering Charities (from her work at Warcop School) organised a meeting with the Charity Commission to see what we could do to overcome these two issues. ...and we have solutions, which we have adopted. **<happy face>**

Getting the right number of Trustees

We had already changed our Charity documentation to reduce the number of Trustees to three. But the Charity Commission thought we should appoint four Trustees, so we have the minimum of three even if a current Trustee needed to step down. Damon Green agreed to be this extra Trustee. (Thank You Damon).

Ending Automatic Trusteeship

Our Constitution says that any member of a “**Committee of Management**” aka “**Committee Member**” shall be Trustees. So, we **cannot** have a “Committee” or “Management Team” as such names would mean that members would *automatically* become Trustees. **<sad face>**

A “Working Group” to make things happen

So, we decided we would have a “**Working Group**” that would undertake the day-to-day running of the Hall. This *Working Group* will be composed of the current Trustees, and Additional Individuals appointed by the Trustees.

These Individuals will be appointed for a period determined by the Trustees, but such appointments would terminate at the next AGM. These individuals would then be eligible for re-appointment by the Trustees if required. All members of the Working Group would have full voting rights on matters discussed by the Working Group.

It is recognised that many community members do (and will hopefully continue) help with the running of the Hall and events, raising funds, key-holding etc. without needing to have formal titles.

