



**Minutes of the Village Hall Trustees Meeting
held on Thursday 12th January 2017, 6.30pm.**

Chairman Nick Viney
Treasurer John Hynan
Secretary Tim Arnold

Committee Members also Present

Jack Ross, Hugh Cochrane, Mark Hill.

1. **Apologies** Charles O'Reilly, Sam Davies, Claude Bonfanti, Adrian Wood.
2. **Minutes of the last Meeting** The Minutes of the previous Trustees meeting held on 20th October 2016 were discussed and agreed.
3. **Matters Arising** No matters arose from the Minutes other than those covered in the Agenda.
4. **Trustees** New Trustees Sam Davies and Claude Bonfanti were formally welcomed, although neither were present; both had sent apologies. It was agreed that it would be appropriate to attempt to address the balance of gender in the Trustees in future, and that we should strive to include more of a cross-section of the whole village community. There are those who could perhaps be approached in a casual manner by the Trustees during the forthcoming year. VH Sec to send round documentation for extant Trustees to sign.
5. **Treasurer's Report** The Treasurer presented the year-end report, which in summary indicated a very good year, with total profits at exactly £8,000. The Fête accounted for £4,700 of the total; hall hirings were up by £500, and expenses were less than in previous years. The upstairs cupboards were the largest expensed equipment purchase, and nothing was spent from reserves, leaving a total of £44,000 in the bank. Draft Accounts and Treasurer's Report are attached.
 - a. **Hirings Analysis** PASH hirings, charged at 10% of their income, generated the most hiring income on the year, although their profits were down on 2015. It was suggested that the Trustees could help with footfall in future, in particular regarding invitations to the opening reception.
 - b. It was agreed that hall hire rates would increase from £37.50 to £40 per session for the Main Hall, and from £27 to £30 for the Committee Room and Upstairs Room, with no increase to the daily rate of £85.

All of the above will be presented to the AGM in summary form by the Treasurer.

6. **Budget** The Treasurer outlined the budget for 2017, which was agreed would include new chairs and refurbishment of various electrical fittings as the main expense.
7. **Publicity** When the next e-Newsletter is published, Nick Viney, assisted by Jack Ross, will be taking copies around the village to all those missing from the email distribution list, and will attempt to collect more contact details of those who might have arrived in recent months or been missed in the past. VH Sec is to create a separate mailing list for those actually resident in the village (with phone numbers 439xxx) to use on occasions when wider distribution is not necessary.
8. **Refurbishments** The following purchases and refurbishments were agreed, some of which are carried forward from previous meetings:
 - a. Chairs - as tried and tested at Durlston Castle.
 - b. Laptop for OHP in the hall.
 - c. Sockets and Lights as per the approved quotation from Julian Harris, subject to further negotiation by the VH Sec and possible reduction in cost, particularly regarding fairy lights.

- d. Defibrillator (AED) VH to purchase AED via the Swanage Defib Partnership, with costs (around £850 + VAT) to be recovered from part of Fête profits. VH Sec to pursue remaining cost (for the secure box) from the PC, as well as issues of siting and phone signal.
- e. New Tablecloths - Hugh Cochrane to source and purchase.
- f. Key Safe - to be mounted outside the committee room door for occasional access when keyholders are not available.
- g. Snooker cues and balls; to be sourced by the Games Club.

9. Events

- a. **Christmas Festival** 16 Dec 2016 A successful event with a nice friendly atmosphere and good music, raising £285 for Swanage Food Bank, as well as a good pile of food, collected ably by St Nicholas of Myra and his helper.
- b. **Visit to Etches Museum & Lunch**, 27th Jan All is in hand; VH Sec is collecting monies to pay in to VH; Treasurer to issue 2 cheques for Etches and Clavell's on the day. Unrequested Dubber article has been taken up with the Editor; it may be difficult to demand a full apology.
- c. **William Barnes Night** Sat 18th Feb. Bring & Share. Nick Viney to renew efforts to invite local experts!
- d. **HX Village Quiz** 21st Apr We'll field a few teams again, Jack Ross to coordinate.
- e. **Fête** 29th May VH Sec to ensure better communication with residents of London Row etc to prevent cars trying to drive out once gazebos are set up. Access down the hill to See-Mans / Hill View will not be included in the road closure application.
- f. **BBQ on the Green** August? Nick Viney to talk to the Brookers to see if they are still willing to organise this event, as it has been previously agreed the format could change.
- g. **Worth Wednesdays** Previously known as Worth Afternoon Club, held from 2.30pm on second Wednesdays in the month, these are now informal social gatherings open to all, without separate 'club' elements such as treasurer, chair etc. Serving as a focus for the hall being used as a meeting place, but on a specific day so folks will know when to attend. Speakers, and other attractions such as visits and trips, can still be organised.

10. AOB

- a. **Sofas** in the committee room may help support the intent to provide a more informal atmosphere, but may get in the way of PASH, weddings and other events. Deferred for more thought & discussion.
- b. **Book Exchange** Suggested as a focal point by Hugh Cochrane, the installation of a bookcase, stocked with quality books - novels and local interest - could be adopted by the Book Club for all to use. Hugh to liaise with VH Sec to source a suitable bookcase, Ali Arnold to be asked to liaise with the Book Club to ensure a good selection of books and magazines is collected and maintained.
- c. **PC Representative** Having now lost Jerry Burden as the PC Rep, Nick Viney is to ask the Parish Clerk to appoint one of the members of the PC to the VH Committee.
- d. **Cheese Plant** Mark Hill is to donate a large, well-foliated Monstera Deliciosa to the hall. Although apparently unable to actually produce cheese, it could add a touch of class and ambience, but will need to be fed and watered if it is to survive. Mark will ensure it stays happy in its new home.

11. **Next Meeting** The AGM is set for 12th April; drinks & nibbles from 7pm with a 7.30pm meeting. This will be followed immediately afterwards by a Trustees meeting.