

## **Worth Matravers Village Hall**

### **Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 31st March 2016**

**Chairman:** Nick Viney      **Parish Council Representative:** Jerry Burden  
**Treasurer:** John Hynan      **Games Club Representative:** Tim Hoad  
**Committee Members:** Hugh Cochrane, Jack Ross, Patrick Magill, Jenny Hynan.

**Secretary:** Tim Arnold

#### **In Attendance**

Jenny Hynan, Claire Barnes, Debbie Handy, Peter Handy, Dilys Thomas, Jane Viney, Sarah McKeigue, Claude Bonfanti, Rob Lobley, Gaenor Lobley, Robert & Pat Waithman, Jane Davies, Maggie Hardy, Liz Hoad, Linda & Adrian Loram, David & Linda Whitehouse, Shiela and David Johnson, Nicola & Chris Brooker, Mark Hill.

#### **Apologies**

Roger & Susan Ambrose, Janet & Peter Falush, Dawn & Alan Cosh, Jan Hardy, Ann Drury, John Lynn, Jo & Paul Lurie, Charles O'Reilly, Ali Arnold.

Previous Minutes from the AGM held on 31st March 2015 were agreed correct; there were no Matters Arising not covered in the Agenda.

#### **Chairman's Report**

Nick Viney outlined the various highlights of the Village Hall Year. He sees his role as principally to inspire the committee, reflecting that much has been done.

Main improvement works include:

The redecoration of the Committee Room, with new lighting, following the excellent work by Ali and Adrian Wood on completing new 'Heritage Boards' displaying the story of Worth Matravers in its many facets.

The new heating units in the hall have finally now been set up to provide comfort when required, but automatically reset themselves to a frost-proof setting if users forget to turn them down after use. This is expected to save money in the long run.

Jerry Burden was thanked for excellent work on the village hall roof, adding new insulation and refitting and pointing throughout.

Dave Ralls has completed installation of new cupboards upstairs; much of the contents of the shed will be stored there, leaving more room in the shed for spare chairs and tables.

The Chair then spoke about the committee, describing how well it works - always reaching decisions after consultation and effective debate. Richard Sandham, who has now stood down, was thanked for many years service on various committees, similarly Hugh Cochrane, who stood down as Treasurer on 31 Dec 15, but remains on the management committee. Nick welcomed John Hynan as the new Treasurer, and thanked him for taking on the role.

### **Outgoing Treasurer's Report**

Hugh Cochrane reported on another good year, with net income in the region of £6,900, slightly less than in 2014.

Principal costs during the year were:

£18,000	New roof
£2,700	Committee Room improvements
£1,300	Kitchen Cupboards and hatch replacement

It seemed probable that most of the above would be recovered in the next couple of years.

Financial stability is dependent on income from the School House, as well as PASH (up 18% on 2014) and other fundraising. To alleviate risk in the possibility of not having tenants in the house for an extended period, the other sources are important, such as hall hirings, which could be improved.

The Fete remained the most successful fundraiser, at £4,384; some other events - organised for the good and benefit of the village community - barely broke even. It was agreed that to at least break even should be an aspiration for the future.

New crockery, tables, pictures and frames etc were the principal expensed equipment purchases.

The hall funds now pay for regular gardening work, as the volunteer rota was unsustainable.

Reserves can be built up for more of a buffer against unexpected expenditure, but nothing is likely or predicted now that the roof has been done.

### **Members Re-election**

John Hynan was proposed (Peter Handy) and seconded (Patrick Magill) as Treasurer. Agreed.

Mark Hill was proposed (Jane Viney) and seconded (Jack Ross) to take over from Richard Sandham as Management Committee member. Agreed.

All extant appointments were confirmed in post.

### **Events**

Plans for the annual Fete are well under way, with a host of volunteers already offering assistance in all areas.

BBQ on the Green will be replaced this year with a Street Party to celebrate HMTQ's 90th birthday on **Sunday** 12th June, starting at 5pm.

### **Defibrillator**

Installation of a defib has been mooted and discussed, possibly on the external wall of the main hall, or elsewhere. Nick Viney has been working with Swanage and Purbeck Rotary, and Maggie Hardy outlined a process in which, if the VH participates in a bulk order, costs can be reduced. However, the committee is in consultation with the PC over placement and funding, as the hall is not the best location in the village.

### **Public Discussion**

Peter Handy suggested the hall might fund re-installation of the 'Biddy Newton' bench in the church yard, commissioning a stone built version.

Some of the gravestones are untidy, eroded and leaning over - some in a potentially dangerous manner.

Nicola Brooker, supported by David and Linda Whitehouse, suggested contributing towards refurbishment or replacement of the memorial to Alastair Ian Campbell Johnstone at Winspit Quarry, possibly re-siting it to a more prominent position less prone to erosion. They have already consulted Treleven Haysom (stone mason) and John Strange (site owner). David Whitehouse reminded us of the inscription: 'He loved birds and green places and the wind on the heath & saw the brightness of the skirts of God', and that it is an effective reminder to be careful.

There was general support for donating a proportion of funds for all of the above projects, but Shiela Johnson reminded us not to get involved where it is not the Hall's business. The VH committee will of course consult with all relevant parties, the Parish Council and the Church before taking any action.

Nick Viney offered the suggestion that the hall could be better used as a community hub; somewhere to gather and chat over a coffee, use the WiFi and generally provide a place for lonely people to meet. Improvements such as a key-safe on the wall, sofas in the committee room, and coffee tables would help facilitate this.

It was noted that the Afternoon Club and the Games Club already meet with similar aims. Both could be better advertised and supported.

The Afternoon Club meets on the 2nd Wednesday of every month, **2.30pm**; the Games Club every Wednesday evening at 7.30pm in the winter months. All are welcome to attend.

Debbie Handy mentioned that the Book Club could also be held in the hall, as it was in the past. Dilys Thomas is the chair - all are welcome to attend.

## **AOB**

There was no other business.

## **Date of the Next Meeting**

A date for the next AGM will be arranged towards the end of March 2017.

Nick Viney  
Chairman  
11 April 2015

[Green text edited post-meeting]