



Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 20th September 2021

Trustees Present: Nick Viney-Chair, John Hynan, Jack Ross, Claude Bonfanti, Rick Gould, Claire Barnes.

Attending: Liz Hoad, Tim Hoad, Trudi Bonfanti, Jenny Hynan, Tim Arnold, Ali Arnold, Debbie Handy, Peter Handy, Yvonne Spencer, Ben Wilson, Pat Milligan, Nicole Broccardo, Renato Clerici

1. **Apologies** – Dawn Cosh, Rob Lobley, Mark Hill, Ceri Vosper
2. **Minute taker** – Claire Barnes
3. **Minutes of last meeting**
Minutes were approved
4. **Chairmans Annual Report**
Nick Viney read out his Report. The following additional comments were made.
 - This year's plant and bric a brac sale raised more than previous year, in total £2,047
 - Some events mentioned in the report did not happen in part due to Covid such as Picnic on the green. The community lunch at the pub was also postponed.
5. **Approval of Report & Accounts**
 - 2020 was a profitable year despite the pandemic. The year started with £50k in the bank and ended with an increase to £62k. Overall stability is assured due to the School House tenancy worth over £6k pa.
 - There were Covid grants received of which £10,000 was from Dorset CC.
 - The Village Hall and School house are both in need of repair. Considerable time has been spent ascertaining the best strategy and it was decided to set aside a sum of £36k for repairs and improvements. It is hoped that work will have begun on these repairs during the 4th quarter of 2021.
 - From early 2021 the hall was available again for hire. PASH and other lettings including weddings have been booked and are generating income.
 - 2021 is expected to show a significant surplus and the Trust remains in a strong financial position.
 - Further COVID grants were received in 2021 amounting to £17,000.
 - The meeting approved the Trustees Report & Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2020.
6. **Planned investments**
 - As mentioned above improvements are required to Village Hall and School House buildings. Rick Gould stated that there is significant damp in the School House including a condensation problem in the roof. Timbers will need strengthening to repair the roof. Externally there's a need for repointing, the gutters need replacing, attention is needed to some drains, one or two windows need replacing and some joinery is required. Once this is done, decorating will follow.
 - Improvements are being considered for the Village Hall toilets and kitchen facilities and this might be wrapped up in some restructuring of the building, perhaps involving an extension. In addition, the shed outside isn't fit for purpose. Further thought will be given to this project over the coming months.
 - Covid has held up the repairs to the School House. However, it is intended that some outside work will be completed before it gets too cold and wet. Peter Handy said it was disappointing this problem is still there from previous tenancy and it was agreed that there is a need to introduce regular inspections of the property.
 - The Chair mentioned he had made a trip to Langton village hall and noted improvements to their

kitchen and main hall. Also commented that it is important that we aren't over ambitious about plans for the Hall and to ensure any improvements are in keeping with the Hall's size and purpose.

- Ali Arnold mentioned that the School House side gate looks shabby. This was acknowledged by Rick Gould and that the stonework needs some attention as there is a drainpipe coming off the roof which drops water down to the spot.
- Tim Arnold asked has the repair work been tendered out and the answer from the Trustees was yes. Jack Ross mentioned he was impressed with the way Rick has handled the situation and that he is well able to manage contractors.
- Ali Arnold asked if a shower was included as part of the refurbishment. It would be useful for Brownies and other users to have access to this. Rick said it is important to create a strategic plan for the long term which may or may not include shower facility, but the point was noted.
- Other investments include a new website and improved technologies linked to village communications. Purbeck Productions (Tim Arnold) had been appointed by Trustees to deliver this. Other suppliers had been considered however Tim's knowledge and expertise was a deciding factor. Debbie Handy raised the issue of comms for non tech-savvy people and it was agreed that the notice boards would still be used for information. There was a comment about Branding and that all activity would be unified through a consistent font and logo.
- Jenny Hynan mentioned a need for new Chairs in the Hall. Peter Handy said lighter ones please. Claire Barnes will investigate options. Jenny Hynan, a long term enthusiast for replacing the chairs indicated afterwards that she would be interested in being involved.

7. Election/re-election of Committee Members

Liz Hoad seconded Claire Barnes and Rick Gould who had joined the Committee since the last AGM and they were elected. Nick Viney proposed Ali Arnold, as a new Trustee this was seconded by Tim Hoad and Ali was elected. Nick mentioned that he was in discussion with another homeowner and hoped he would agree to join the Committee. The rest of the committee members had indicated they were prepared to remain as Trustees and were re-elected by the AGM. The Chair is keen to engage younger people with events and activities and will invite them to the pub for a discussion.

8. Events update.

- The next Book Group meeting is arranged for 21st September at 5.30 at the Village Hall. Everyone who was interested in reading is encouraged to participate.
- 20th October film club starts, organized by Claude Bonfanti. It will be a free event to encourage people back.
- It is expected that Carols on the Green will be reinstated this year
- There was a discussion about an event in the Hall soon to bring people together given the cancelled pub event. This would be a topic on the agenda at the next Trustees meeting.
- An Italian evening in the village hall in first quarter of next year was thought a good idea
- Nick mentioned he would like to have a go at reinstating the planned centenary next summer over the weekend of 9/10th July. Until 1919 the village was owned by the Rempstone Estate but villagers were then given the opportunity to buy their cottages and the farms. This is an important historical event and one to celebrate.
- The 2022 Fete will be discussed at trustees next meeting on 12th October. As next year is the Platinum Jubilee and the late May bank holiday has been moved some thought will have to be given to the date and to the possible restyling of the event with a Platinum Jubilee theme
- It was agreed that a variety of people could get involved in organising the individual events

9. AOB There was none

10. **Date of next meeting.** Committee will meet on 12th October 2021

CB 21/09/21