



Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 11th April 2023

Trustees Present: Nick Viney-Chair, John Hyman, Jack Ross, Claude Bonfanti, Rob Lobley, Claire Barnes, Ali Arnold

Attending: Liz Hoad, Margaret McAllister, Jim McAllister, Jane Viney, Patrick Corbett, Tim Arnold, Debbie Handy, Peter Handy, David Butters, Peter Newton, Mike Wenham, Angela Wenham, Gerald Kelly, Christine Kelly, Rachel James, Allen James, David Ainscough

1. Apologies –Dawn Cosh, Rick Gould, Gaenor Lobley

2. Minute taker – Claire Barnes

3. Minutes of last meeting

Minutes were approved

4. Chairmans Annual Report

Nick Viney commented that the recent 12 months had been “wake up” time, when life was getting back to normal after the pandemic.

- Events and common interest groups brought us back together as a community. These included The Fete, The Jubilee Picnic, the Open Gardens, Village Centenary Weekend, Feast on the Green, Trev Haysom Quarry Talk, Carols on the Green (in the Church), Bring and Share supper, and the Open Meeting with the National Trust. The Clubs include Lunch Club (thanks to Yvonne), Film Club (thanks to Claude & Peter), Sports Club (notably Snooker on Wednesdays), Book Club (Thanks Dilys), Sustainable Worth (Thanks Kathy).
- Thanks also to the Trustees and including Ceri & Liz (Parish Council and Church). It is noted that one trustee, Mark Hill has decided to retire. The Chair also wanted to record thanks and appreciation to people who are called up last minute to help with event site preparations notably the marquee. Also, not forgetting the many people who come to the events and support them.
- It has been a year of heavy investment. There is a 5-year programme to help spread the cost of repairs, maintenance, and improvements to the Village Hall and School House. The School House rent plus VH lettings mean that a level of expenditure is possible, but we may need to cover some costs from fundraising such as for example, the village Fete. Rick Gould has been a star in getting the School House and VH work done. He has been supported by his team, Dawn, Jack, and John. Ali and Angela have tidied the kitchen and are organising PAT tests. Investment has also been made in new chairs and an external notice board.
- The Committee is always looking for new trustees and if interested please contact Nick Viney.
- Finally, Nick stated that this will be his last year as Chair.

5. Approval of the Accounts

- The year started with £77,661 in the bank and ended with £54,326.

- Core income has come from School House rent and Hall hire. The Centenary event raised funds, but this largely covered costs.
- In terms of payments, the highest sum was for repairs and improvements to the Schoolhouse and Hall. This is stage 1 of an ongoing plan. The largest item reported in Equipment was the purchase of new chairs.
- The accounts for 2022 were approved. Peter Newton proposed, David Ainscough seconded approval. These are available to see in detail on the website.

6. Planned investments

The Chair shared a report prepared by Rick Gould.

As mentioned above, repairs and improvements to the Hall and Schoolhouse building are part of an ongoing project. The cost of rebuilding the dry-stone boundary wall between the village hall and Wild Hill was shared with the Bennett family and their contribution is much appreciated. There have been further unplanned repairs to the roof and chimneys, including stonework to the rear of the hall and the two windows in that elevation. In addition, there are plans to redecorate the inside of the Hall, smarten up wiring and resolve the damp issue in the side entrance.

By 2027 it is likely that there will be a need to replace the windows to the front elevation and tackle repairs and external decoration at the rear. Approximately £15k will be needed for this work. Should we decide to go ahead with kitchen and WC refurbishment, then this would have to come from fund raising.

Overall good progress is being made and Village Hall budgets are being managed and adapted to achieve the necessary work.

7. Election/re-election of Committee Members

David Butters proposed, and Liz Hoad seconded that all Trustees be re-elected except for Mark Hill who is standing down. Jack Ross proposed Angela Wenham, Pete Newton and David Ainscough as new Trustees, Tim Arnold seconded this, and they were then elected by those present.

8. Events update

- Yvonne ran a successful pop-up flower stall over the Easter holidays and raised £180 which will be shared between MyTime and the Church Roof Fund.
- Peter Handy informed the meeting about an interesting show in the VH on 22nd April at 7 for 7.30. The event involves a combination of music and visual arts.
- The Coronation will be celebrated with a picnic on the Green on 7th May from 12 noon. Jack made a request for 7- 8 people to help set up the marquee on Thursday 4th May. Another group of volunteers will be required on Friday morning 5th May to help with bunting.
- The village Charity Fete is planned for Monday 29th May 10.30-2.30pm. Next meeting on this will be Tuesday 25th April at 6.30pm in the Village Hall.
- The film club continues to be well attended on a Wednesday evening once a month thanks to Claude Bonfanti and Peter Handy. The next show is Aftersun on 19th April.
- Tim Arnold volunteered to help organise a BBQ on the Green over August Bank Holiday.

9. Public Discussion

- A safety issue connected to wet leaves on pavement near village hall was raised and noted by the Chair. David Ainscough commented that once the space is initially managed it will become an ongoing task for liability reasons.

- The issue of grit bins was also raised, and whether there are any in the village. Feedback was that there are some bags of salt available when required.
- The Chair commented that the National Trust is trying hard to do things collaboratively in the village and want to engage people with their activities. NV stated that going forward he will chair National Trust meetings in the Village Hall to ensure they are convivial.
- Filming is taking place in Winspit Quarries between 12th-29th April thus access to this area will be closed.

10. AOB

- Jim McAllister raised the issue of rising energy costs and have Trustees considered solar panels on the building. It was agreed this will go on the agenda at the next Trustees Meeting.
- Patrick Corbett referred us to his poem in the April edition of the Dubber, a reflection on the beauty of our local environment.

11. Date of next meeting. Committee will meet on Tuesday 2nd May

CB 25/04/23