

Minutes of the Wilstone Village Hall AGM held on 20 May 2020 at 7:30pm via Zoom.

Present: Cllr D Chalmers, Mr C Cobb, Mr P Cogger, Miss D Crapnell, Mrs I McCall, Mr C Reedman, Mrs S Reedman, Mr A Short, Mrs T Simmons, Mrs J Walker, Mr P Walker, Mrs A Beck (minutes).

20/01 Minutes of the AGM held on 13 May 2019

Those present agreed the Minutes of the AGM held on 13 May 2019.

20/02 Chairman's Report (Mr P Walker)

INTRODUCTION

I was elected Chairman of the Village Hall Committee following the announcement of the previous Chairman, Richard Smissen, at last year's AGM that he was not seeking re-election. I took up the reins in June 2019.

I would like to formally thank Richard and his committee for his safe stewardship of the hall in his nine years as Chairman, for promoting its success and leaving it in an excellent financial position, which is particularly relevant at this point in time.

In March we saw our activities brought to an abrupt halt because of the Coronavirus, resulting in considerable lost revenue, both through our own activities such as our film nights, the cabaret and barn dance, as well as hall lettings. Let me at this point reassure you that our financial reserves are such that we can withstand this loss of income for some time to come.

Before this event we were making good improvements on many fronts.

We hired a couple of skips to dispose of a large number of old items which have cluttered up the main storage cupboard for many years and we have recycled various items of furniture. We have needed to do this in order to be more efficient for the storage of other items which we need to retain, such as the plastic chairs.

We undertook a programme of decoration and refurbishment, repainting the main hall and foyer, replacing the window and stage curtains, and installing blinds along the east windows. We also upgraded the emergency signs and changed the curtain lighting and all the main white hall lights to LED's which makes them much brighter and has helped the Whist Drive users to see better. It will also reduce our energy consumption.

In addition, we have completely refurbished the committee room, which had become something of a dumping ground. It is now contains a purpose-built mobile bar and storage cupboards with new flooring. The cost of all these works has been around £10,000.

Other maintenance work has included cleaning of the projector and upgrading the electrics on the stage, and externally we have replaced the broken plastic panels damaged partly by recent storms and partly through exuberant football playing. We have had a formal inspection of the flat roof undertaken as required by our insurance company and I am pleased to report that no repairs are required.

The end result is a hall which is fit for purpose for the next few years and which adds value to hall users.

A more detailed financial report is attached, but in summary we have around £20,000k cash in the bank, after paying for the refurbishments. We have lost a good deal of income from hall events (film nights, fete and other events) plus around £1000 per month from hall lettings.

Our monthly outgoings have fallen to £700 as a result of less energy being used.

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EVENTS

Before the lockdown, we ran five film nights which have continued to be very popular almost always running at the maximum capacity for the hall. Broadly speaking, a film night brings in around £1000 of revenue with the combination of ticket and bar sales. We continue to help SoCs by donating £1 for every ticket sold.

In June the village enjoyed an Open Village event, rather than a Fete, which the WVH underwrites the event and is run generally by much the same people.

We had planned a Barn Dance, VE Day celebrations, the Village Fete and two more film nights, but sadly all of those have had to be cancelled with a loss of revenue of around £10,000.

PEOPLE

We have had one resignation from the committee over the past year and I would like to thank Marcus Postings for his help and support.

Our treasurer, Neil Williams, also indicated his desire to stand down. Tessa Simmons volunteered but she is currently in recuperation after surgery, but she does still intend to take up the Treasurer role when she is fully recovered; in the meantime, Neil continues in the post.

At this point, I would like to thank all members of the Committee for their continued support and hard work, in particular Colin Reedman who monitors the hall on a daily basis, to Tony Short who deals with all the many and varied issues that arise with hall lettings, to Anna as Secretary, and to Diana Crapnell as deputy chairman.

THE FUTURE

Who knows when we will be back up and running again, but the committee are ready and willing to swing back into action when called upon. The Committee has ensured that the hall is in good shape, is well maintained, and is ready for action.

That concludes the Chairman's Report.

*The report was **accepted**, and the Chairman thanked for all his hard work.*

20/03

Treasurer's Report

The audited accounts, prepared by the Treasurer Neil Williams, were circulated to all present. In summary, it was another satisfactory year financially, the deficit of £12,826 having been driven by the village hall refurbishing costs.

	£
Hall Hiring less day to day running costs (£12,231 - £11,463)	768
Events (income – expenditure) (£12,462-£9,946)	2,516
Interest / other	38
Donations	1,378
Refurbishment of Village Hall	(17,526)
DEFICIT	(12,826)

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The accumulated surplus now stands at £22,828.87.

The accounts were audited by Mrs Alla Postings FCCA.

*The audited accounts were **accepted** by the meeting attendees.*

20/04 Election of Committee Members

The following committee members were elected following resolutions.

Representative members (3 places):

Mr Colin Reedman (Church)

Mrs Sheila Reedman (Church)

Cllr. Doug Chalmers (Tring Rural Parish Council)

Elected members (5 places):

Mr Peter Walker

Ms Diana Crapnell

Mr Tony Short

Mrs Tessa Simmons

1 vacancy

Co-opted members (2 places):

Mr Neil Williams

Mrs Anna Beck

Special members (unlimited):

Mr Chris Cobb

Mr Phil Cogger

Mr Peter Kemp

Mr Paul Lovis

Mrs Irene McCall

Mr Richard Smissen

Mrs Jill Walker

20/05 Signing of declaration

All Committee Members present at the meeting agreed to sign the annual declaration as soon as Covid-19 restrictions allow.

20/06 Resolution to increase hall letting rates

Proposed by Peter Walker. Seconded by Diana Crapnell.

The Committee Members approved the resolution to increase hall letting rates. The implementation of which will be at the Committee's discretion.

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20/07 Resolution to pay the rent

Proposed by Peter Walker, Seconded by Diana Crapnell. Carried unanimously.

The rent of £1 will be paid to Tring Rural Parish Council through Cllr Doug Chalmers as soon as Covid-19 restrictions allow.