

SHIMPLING VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE AGM

Venue: Shimpling Village Hall, Thursday 22nd May 2023 at 7pm.

Committee Present: Bernard Essery Carol Squire Nathalie Brown and Jim Lucas

Apologies: Tina Campan Hannah Bayley David Johnston

Audience: Jenny Pine, Marian Peck, Grahame Bonson

1. Welcome

2. VHMC minutes from 2022 AGM:

The minutes were circulated and read out to the committee and audience. There were no additional comments.

Minutes were accepted as an accurate record of the 2022 AGM.

3. The Annual Report for 2022/23:

Nathalie Brown read the annual report for 2022-23 to the committee and audience.

After a quiet couple of years during Covid the village hall is now fully up and running.

This past year has seen three new weekly exercise classes start up.

Pilates every Monday morning Dance club on Wednesday evening and Zumba every Friday lunchtime.

The classes are well attended and bring in regular income.

Thanks to the parish council the village hall now has film equipment allowing us to hold monthly film nights, we also held a kids movie morning during the Easter holidays.

We have had screenings of the Shipheton Christmas pantomime, live six nations rugby matches and last weekend the Kings Coronation ceremony.

Another monthly event is the rural coffee caravan, bringing people together over a cup of tea and a slice of cake. This also provides a warm space and lots of useful information about services in Suffolk.

At Christmas the PCC used the Village Hall for wreath making which was great fun then the wreaths were sold at the PCC Christmas market also held at the Village Hall.

We also held a Christmas party, Santa and his elf turned up for the kids, there was lots of noisy activities and once the children left it was time for the adults to have some fun in their Christmas Jumpers!

We kicked off 2023 with the sea shanty evening in January raising money for the RNLI.

A couple of months later it was time for the annual spring market in March with the much-heralded marmalade competition.

April and May have been particularly busy for the VH /Kings Coronation committee organising events for the King's coronation weekend which was a huge success with a little something for everyone.

A big thanks to the Parish Council and the Hallifax Trust for their kind contributions which allowed us to have a fun weekend and buy commemorative mugs for the children of the village.

Moving forward we have some fun ideas for the coming year, Race night, Rock n roll dance & quiz nights to name a few.

We are also hoping to hold a silver jewellery making workshop.

There are also projects in the pipeline to improve the village hall space. We hope to install solar panels to help with fuel costs and to generate income for the village hall.

Repairs to the fire doors are due to happen in the next couple of weeks.

Lastly we said goodbye to three members of the committee

Marian Peck , David Johnston, and Glenda Peck, thank you for all you've done for the VH over the years.

4. Financial Report for 2022/23:

- Propose and agree accounts for 2022/3

The Village Hall Accounts were agreed by the independent examiner as accurate.

In summary

Brought forward £1764.89

Income £3241.51

Expenditure £2746.09

Year end the account had £2260.31 so a surplus had been achieved.

Accounts were proposed to be agreed by Nathalie Brown and seconded by Bernard Essery

- Propose and agree independent accounts examiner for 2023/4

Independent Examiner has been asked and agreed to be the independent examiner again for the 2023-4 financial year.

- Propose and agree hall hire fees

It is proposed to not raise the hall hire rates as there was a surplus at the end of the financial year.

It was proposed and agreed to keep the hire rates as they currently are - £8 for villagers and £10 for external hirers.

Proposed by Carol Squire and seconded by Nathalie Brown.

In the absence of the Treasurer David Johnston, the following report was circulated and read to the committee and audience by Nathalie Brown.

2022 – 2023 Finance Report

In the course of this financial year the village hall has seen some increase in activity throughout the year. This has in part been due to post COVID activity increasing the use of the hall for a range of activities including film night and Friday night table tennis plus Zumba classes and dance classes.

During the course of the year we have had injections of money generously provided by the parish council and Halifax trust in order to help the hall provide events especially around organising events to celebrate the Queen's jubilee in 2022. This was such an occasion when the village hall could contribute to the village's overall celebration of national events.

Throughout this year the balance of the accounts has ranged between £1300 and £2100 with an average of around £1600 at the end of each month. Despite the increase in utility bills the village hall account has remained healthy. The ambition of the village hall committee is to increase the average balance to around £2000 each month. An average balance of this nature will serve to insulate the VH against sudden increases in costs and provide a contingency for unforeseen events or expenses.

With increased activity and bookings of the hall for private and other functions we believe that this will be possible given that we have increased the charges for the use of the hall a little during this past year which has helped to generate some further income.

Further increases might be required if utility bills continue to rise and further income is required to be generated but this needs to be balanced to ensure that we do not over-price the rental of the hall per hour and therefore potentially reduce the demand for bookings and reduce our income.

The accounts.

You will see from the accounts that we have balanced the books at the end of the financial year which have now been ratified by an independent checker. All income and outgoings have been accounted for and I submit these for the record. David Johnston - Treasurer

5. Election of Officers:

- Chair

Nathalie was prepared to stand again.

Nominated by Marian Peck and seconded by Bernard Essery

- Secretary

Carol was prepared to stand again

Nominated by Nathalie Brown and seconded by Jim Lucas

- Treasurer

David has stepped down due to work commitments.

Nathalie will work on getting a new treasurer. In the meantime Carol will continue as interim treasurer.

Nathalie and Carol are now signatories on the account and awaiting access to the account on line.

Marian Peck is willing to continue as a signatory until all the changes are completed.

- Committee members

Additional nomination for a committee member - Jenny Pine

Proposed by Marian Peck and seconded by Bernard Essery

6. Any other business:

- Marian Peck raised concern about the upcoming pantomime.

Nathalie Brown stated that the panto is to be held at Alpheton Village Hall and tickets sales would be split.

Marian disagreed with this, as the original agreement was Mike F-W would write it for 2022 and proceeds would go to Alpheton to help with their hall refurbishment. The following year 2023 it should be held at Shimpling and we would receive the proceeds.

She stated she is vehemently against a 50:50 split. As it is Shimplings turn to host we should get the profit.

Nathalie explained she was unaware that was the agreement, and the proposal to hold at Alpheton as due to the larger hall size.

Discussion ensued about staging it at Shimpling Village Hall this year and perhaps using the hall differently to increase capacity.

Nathalie agreed that there needs to be a pantomime meeting and will take this forward.

Marian volunteered to write and explain her concerns at the change to the agreement.

- Grahame Bonson raised that he was now aware that the village Hall had an Instagram feed. Nathalie explained this was new and looked forward to people engaging with it.

The AGM was closed.