

MINUTES OF SHOTTESWELL VILLAGE HALL A.G.M. HELD ON 15TH NOVEMBER 2018

PRESENT

B. Zammett, L. Clark, T. Clark, N. Stephens, V. Ingram, H. Wareing, J. Noble, T. Barker, B. Noble, A. Omer, H. Swaine, D. Sadler, M. Palmer, C. Pym, E. Gilchrist, J. Coogan, J. Beaumont, J. Burgess, K. Holman, D. Holman.

APOLOGIES

Councillor Les Faulkner.

MINUTES

The minutes of the last AGM had been distributed and were approved. (Proposed T. Clark, seconded T. Barker.)

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Ben Zammett, Chairman, reported that the last twelve months had seen a much welcomed and marked increase in bookings, from birthday parties to ad hoc events. Since October 1st we had welcomed 'Tickles for Pickles.' We had increased our publicity with printed banners, leaflet drops and a dedicated SVH Facebook page. Word of mouth recommendations from many birthday parties had certainly helped.

Fundraising events this year had included a Race Night in February, expertly organised by Dave Clark, which was well supported by the village. There was a Village Hall Raffle drawn on 31st March. He thanked the Fete Committee for their hard work in organizing the event which was well supported again and from which the hall benefited. He reported that we would be holding another Quiz Evening in November. He said the committee intended to launch a new event, a regular Village Hall Breakfast Club starting on 9th December. He thanked everyone who had supported these events and said that we were always open to new ideas for fundraising.

He reported that we had addressed a number of routine maintenance issues this year plus the trimming of the Turkey Oak, but one of our main tasks had been to explore the options to replace the current heating system in the hall. After much research and several visits by systems designers and installers the committee had settled on Air Source Heating as its favoured option; it would allow the building to be kept at a constant ambient temperature with the ability to increase the temperature quickly for an event. Keeping the whole building warmer should help to reduce the risk of damp, he said. He reported that a grant application had been submitted to the Big Lottery and that the decision was pending.

Brian Noble commented that the Village Hall Committee had achieved all its objectives on the Parish Plan except for the heating.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Linda reported that the committee had been joined by Nichola Stephens who was co-opted at the 15th January meeting. Five meetings were held, the June meeting convened to discuss the way forward with the heating, the proposal being that 'regardless of the contractor we would go with air source heating subject to successful grant applications' and it was agreed that everyone would look into funding and grant applications. There was division whether radiators or wall-mounted fan heaters would suit our needs so three members had visited another hall to check the noise levels and found them acceptable.

She reported that the Lottery licence had been renewed this year and the annual insurance paid in July. PAT testing was conducted in March and fire safety equipment tested resulting in the purchase of a new fire extinguisher.

A frequent agenda item had been promotion of the hall, achieved by Flying the Flag Birthday Club, purchase of three banners, flyers located at the entrance doors, the website, Facebook and general upkeep and maintenance of the hall inside and outside for which she thanked particularly Joan and Brian Noble for the good condition of the floor.

She reported that there had been numerous incidents this year such as a damaged exterior light, tripping of the electricity, malfunction of the coin meter and problems with the lock and knob on the front door all of which Ben had attended to promptly. She thanked Ben for his help in keeping the hall running efficiently

TREASURER'S REPORT

Terry Clark reported that the account was healthy and better than previously due to increased fund-raising activity. We had obtained a small Lotteries Licence which allowed us to run a large Easter Draw with pre-printed tickets and which raised £754. Two quizzes and a race night raised a further £634. We also assisted the Fete Committee with a major draw which helped increase their funds. We were most grateful to the Fete Committee for their donation of £1500.

General costs were slightly higher, but money spent on maintenance was significantly higher due to raising the crown on the Turkey Oak and a number of electrical and plumbing jobs.

The excess of income over expenditure was equivalent to the Fete Committee's donation but it was considered prudent to have a significant reserve in case of general or emergency maintenance works, which were likely considering the age of the building.

LETTING OFFICER'S REPORT

Linda Clark said that she reported to the committee at each meeting and discussion as to how to increase the bookings usually followed. It was agreed at the January meeting to maintain a calendar of bookings in the hall and keep it updated as bookings came in but that lettings would still have to come through the Lettings Officer. At April's meeting she reported that regular bookings were Tuesday Club, Yoga classes, monthly Saturday lunches and band bookings. The P.C.C. and Parish Council had been thanked for their annual donations of £50 each. By July it was reported that we had few future bookings, that several enquiries had come to nothing and that we needed some new regular bookings. By October a mother and baby class had relocated from Banbury and was using the hall four days per week, but still allowed us to take bookings for weekends and evenings.

She reported that bookings had come in via several modes of advertising; leaflets at the door, the fete banner, website and word of mouth. She reported that the rate of £6 per hour was very competitive. We had enough parking space for most parties. We had a healthy number of private bookings into the New Year. An evening exercise class was due to start on Monday and there was an enquiry for a daytime/evening class (or both) starting in the New Year.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Ben Zammett said that Joan Noble and Tammy Barker were standing down from the committee and thanked them for all they have done for the village hall. They were presented with planters and cards. He said that Nichola Stephens had been co-opted onto the committee during the year and that Jan Beaumont (Tuesday Club representative) and Jeanette Coogan were willing to serve on the committee. The following were elected:

Chairman - Ben Zammett	proposed H. Wareing, seconded N. Stephens
Treasurer - Terry Clark	proposed K. Holman, seconded T. Barker
Secretary/Lettings - Linda Clark	proposed D. Holman, seconded B. Noble
Existing committee members plus	proposed A. Omer, seconded M. Palmer
J. Beaumont, J. Coogan en bloc	