

St Margaret's Hall
Management Committee
Annual General Meeting
Minutes
Saturday 11th May 2013. 1000.

1. Present John Macdonald (Chair), Chris Bailward (Deputy Chair), Gareth Cherry (Treasurer), Vicky Franklin, Maria Hawkins, Paddy Hughes, Keith Norman, Jacqueline Pyne, June Wood, Sarah Warren (Secretary).

2. Apologies

Sally Collins, Emilie Gordon.

3. Minutes of previous AGM held on 26 May 2012, previously circulated, signed with one spelling correction.

4. Matters arising from the minutes None.

5. Chair report by John Macdonald. This had previously been circulated:

Julie Gripper stood down as the Chair of the Hall committee at the last Annual General Meeting in May 2012. Julie had been Chair of the committee for five years and Secretary prior to that for the previous five years. We are very grateful for her invaluable leadership during that time. Another member, Robert Neave, stood down after ten years on the committee. His practical skills in helping to maintain the fabric of the hall will be greatly missed.

We have been joined on the committee by two new trustees; June Wood, (June has been involved with the Village Hall committee for many years as a representative of the Parish Council) whose experience in local government will be put to good use and Keith Norman, the representative of the South Cheriton United Football Club; a role long required of the committee since the SCUFC is the most prominent user of the hall.

Even though we have had some recent heavy costs in maintenance, the Hall maintains a healthy financial balance. The floor which had buckled the previous year (2011/12) was rectified prior to this winter. A new schedule for heating and procedures including the addition of a boost switch in the main body of the hall obviates the necessity for hall users to adjust the heating programmer. This appears to have been successful in maintaining a level of heat and humidity to preclude the distortion of the floor.

Oil continues to be a very expensive commodity at the moment and we are investigating ways of reducing the Hall's expenditure on fuel. Charges were reviewed for heating but we are conscious of trying to keep the Hall affordable for all and we continue to keep our charges at the level set in 2008. This allows the Hall to be competitive with our immediate neighbours in the surrounding villages. We feel that this decision has been vindicated in that we have had slightly more interest in the hiring of the Hall.

Our Deputy Chair, Chris Bailward was instrumental in setting up the Horsington Village Hall website which is now up and running.

<http://horsingtonvillagehall.co.uk> Also on <http://www.hallshire.com> It has proved its worth in that we have had enquiries already. The committee's thanks go to Chris for setting up and continuing to edit the website.

The car park has had the potholes filled in. We must thank Wessex Water for providing the material and the South Cheriton Garage for providing the manpower to do so.

The Hall triennial electrical inspection has recently been carried out and apart from a few small discrepancies was satisfactory.

The Hallmark inspection by the Community Council, also triennial, is due shortly.

Our fundraiser this year took place on the day before St Patrick's Day so it was appropriate that the theme was the Irish national day. The hall was decked out in Irish colours and the dinner menu was appropriately Eirean. The committee is constantly amazed and gratified by the generosity of our community of Horsington and South Cheriton who attended and contributed to the evening. We raised £570 for Hall funds which will help to cover some of our costs. My thanks must go to the other members of the committee for all the help in everything from cooking to the organisational skills required for the successful evening we undoubtedly had.

The Hall Management Committee is mindful of the effort of the Parish Council in its continued monitoring and maintenance of the Hall surrounds and is very grateful.

6. Treasurer's report by Gareth Cherry.

Another decent year for St Margarets Village Hall, with net positive cash flow once again being achieved with no large single item repairs/expenses required.

Income from classes/lettings was 17% lower year on year, the main driver being there were no large private events this year as opposed to last.

The cost of heating and lighting of the hall fell 7% year on year; partly due to the improvements made to the boiler controls.

The hall remains in a strong financial position with the ability going forward to be able to meet any large repair bills or single item expenses as and when required.

The annual accounts (2012/2013) had been signed off by John Fleming and previously circulated to the committee. The committee is grateful to John for continuing to audit our accounts especially in view of his recent illness.

7. Booking's report by Emilie Gordon.

The village hall classes are all still running as before. The classes seem happy with everything and say the hall is much warmer so they don't have to put the heating on as much. This means we take less revenue as we cannot charge the higher heating rate.

Horsington Primary School ran a successful play in March and all the classes were very good and gave their class time up for the week, which they always do without complaint.

We have a booking for a weekend in June from a group of people from Sussex, this came via our web site which is very encouraging and thanks to Chris's hard work and clever web design. The lady said she found it really clear and easy to use.

A comment was made that the loss of heating revenue will be more than made up by the savings in solving problems with the floor.

8. Sport's report by Keith Norman.

It has been another successful season for the club. In total there are about 120 players in all sides, junior and senior. We started a new Saturday Senior Side and they have gained promotion at the first attempt losing only two games. Our Senior Sunday Side are currently second in the league and have won one cup and are in two more cup finals.

All our Junior Sides have done well, our Under 11's winning their league and being unbeaten. Both our Under 9's and 10's finished mid table with the Under 10's reaching a semi-final. Our Under 14's after gaining promotion last season finished in the bottom half this year but lost 7 games by the odd goal. Our Under 16's were promoted last year and are currently third in their league. The Under 18's finished 5th in their league.

The tiles in one of the showers in the changing rooms are bowing out and need rectifying. Simon Howell has agreed to utilise one of his employees to work on the problem.

The Club was sorry to lose Sue Howell who passed away during the season. Sue helped set up the club and will be sadly missed by everyone in the Club.

9. Resignation of Committee

The Committee resigned.

The AGM ended at 1015.