

St Margaret's Hall Management Committee Minutes of Annual General Meeting

Saturday. 5 May 2018. 1000.

Acceptance of Accounts 2017/8. Previously circulated.

The accounts for the year 2017/8 have been audited and signed off by Jerry Wood. The Committee are grateful and thank Jerry for carrying out this task. Prior to the meeting all present were asked if there were any questions on the accounts and if they were satisfactory. There were no questions and all indicated the accounts were acceptable.

1. Present

Ann Franklin, Vicky Franklin, Maria Hawkins, Emilie Gordon, Gillian Miles, Jacqueline Pyne, John Macdonald (Chair).

2. Apologies

Chris Bailward (Deputy Chair), Gareth Cherry (Treasurer), Oliver Franklin, Charles James, Hannah Williamson.

JM passed a copy of CJ's E-mail around in which CJ stated his reasons for wishing to withdraw from the committee. He feels he has made little contribution to the Hall since the upgrade to the heating; this due to his work and personal commitments. The Committee needs fresh young blood and the enthusiasm which he feels he is no longer able to provide. JM tried to persuade Charles to stay, but he is aware that he needs to concentrate on his business at this time. Charles has been a stalwart of the committee for several years and has provided excellent practical assistance and professional advice, especially concerning the floor. The Committee thank him for his sterling work. JM will write a letter of thanks. Action. JM.

3. Approval of Accounts 2017/8

Accounts approved. Proposed JP, Seconded EG.

4. Minutes of previous meeting on 6th May 2017.

Previously circulated. Minutes approved and signed.

5. Matters arising.

None.

6. Chair report.

The Charities governing document is the trust deed, the original copy of which is held by the chairman of the Committee.

A management committee is formed each year. Presently it numbers 12.

Representatives of user groups will make up part of the committee. There are no paid staff. Trustees received no remuneration. Out of pocket expenses on behalf of St Margaret's Hall are repaid.

The charities bankers are: HSBC Bank, Yeovil Branch.

Our insurers are: Aviva Plc.

The object of the trustees is to provide a Village Hall for the use of the inhabitants of the parish of Horsington, County of Somerset. The Hall should be held upon trust for the purposes of physical and mental recreation and training and social moral and intellectual development for the benefit of the inhabitants.

The trustees are pleased to report that these objectives continue to be met. The Pilates classes continue under the instruction of Carol Pirie. Upholstery classes are held on a Tuesday which is followed by Badminton in the evening. The very popular art classes run on Thursdays and Fridays.

The monthly meeting of the WI continues to be held in the hall as do meeting's of the Parish Council.

The Hall trustee members have been bolstered by a representative of the South Cheriton Football Club, Oliver Franklin, which has brought our numbers up to an ideal of twelve Trustees.

St Margaret's Hall continues to maintain a healthy financial position. We retain a sensible amount (just over £7500) in reserve. Day to day classes kept our current account in surplus. The renting of the changing rooms to the SCUFC has been suspended for one season to allow the football club to regularise their financial position. We continue to maintain our charges set at the level in 2008, which remain competitive with our immediate neighbours in the surrounding villages.

The continuing problem of our floor has been a significant cost and solutions provided in the past exacerbated the situation rather than cured it. We have recognised that the probable cause of the warped floor was a damp wall adjacent to the tarmac on the road side of the hall. As a result we installed a French drain. At the same time all the drains were checked and cleared. The offending part of the floor has been relaid as a floating floor with a gap under the skirting board to allow the floor to expand. Extra air bricks have been installed in the field side of the building to increase the airflow under the floor. All these actions appear to have had the desired effect and to date the floor has not deformed this winter. Unfortunately, before the floor was relaid last year an accident occurred and a lady was injured. Our insurance company is still dealing with the claim.

Rupert Martin, the owner of Dextra Lighting was approached with a view to giving us some advice on the lighting in the hall. One of his lighting engineers visited the hall and as a result the hall as well as the kitchen, store rooms and toilets were fitted out with the latest in LED lighting. Mr. Martin very kindly donated the luminaires, for which we are extremely grateful.

The website horsingtonvillagehall.co.uk continues to be edited by the Deputy Chair and provides a platform for information, feedback and occasional bookings, as well as Minutes of Parish Council meetings since 2013.

The fire risk assessment is carried out each year at the time the fire extinguishers are inspected by an outside company. Our triennial electrical inspection was carried out in April 2016. Our electrician, who carries out the inspection, informs us that the check is now required every five years instead of three. Routine maintenance is carried out on the heating boiler and kitchen electrical equipment on an annual basis.

We continue to maintain our Hallmark 1 category which covers all aspects of management, forward planning and development. The triennial inspection by the Hallmark assessors was carried out in June and the assessors were very happy with our standards.

The Hall Management Committee is grateful to the Parish Council for its continued monitoring and maintenance of the Hall surrounds.

7. Treasurers report.

St Margaret's Hall continues to be in a good financial position with accumulated funds as at 31st March 2018 of £7,697.77.

However, I'd highlight that the income from both "clubs and classes" as well as "lettings" is on the decline. With this in mind I'd suggest we hold an autumnal village hall dinner this year as well as think about other fund raising events we could hold at the hall. Given the reduction in lettings we all need to continue to spread the word about the works carried out over the last couple of years to the interior, re-decoration and improved LED lighting, as well as to the exterior of the hall and that it makes a great venue for local events/children's parties, etc.

Also, I'd highlight that the subscription to the Community Council for Somerset has increased from £40pa to £100pa this year. Given membership gives us 5% off our annual insurance policy (equating to £49.50 this year) plus provides a number of other added benefits, it is the opinion of myself and the Chairman that we continue with this membership.

8. Bookings report.

The Village Hall continues to be a venue for the WI, Parish Council, Classes and Election Polling Station. This gives a steady predictable income. There seem to be less parties booked this year, however, we have had a few work clinics and also planning permission viewing so maybe these events will become more popular. Everything else remains unchanged.

9. Sports Report.

Presently the South Cheriton United Football Club is running four teams during the winter season. The Saturday team is maintaining a mid place in their league and the Sunday team is a creditable top half team with a visit to a forthcoming Cup Final. There are two youth teams; The under 8's are second in their group and the under 7's played in a local tournament at Stalbridge and were runners up. Given that they were playing some high class opposition from all over Dorset their performance was indeed first rate.

10. Resignation of Committee.

The Committee resigned.

The meeting closed at 1009.