

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

Saturday. 4 May 2019. 1000.

Acceptance of Accounts 2018/9. Previously circulated.

The accounts for the year 2018/9 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 was one question about the 40% increase in the cost of fuel. This was put down to the fact that there had been one uplift of fuel in 2017/8 and two in the current year. All indicated the accounts were acceptable.

1. Present

Chris Bailward (Deputy Chair), Gillian Miles, Jacqueline Pyne, John Macdonald (Chair).

2. Apologies

Gareth Cherry (Treasurer), Ann Franklin, Vicky Franklin, Oliver Franklin, Maria Hawkins, Emilie Gordon, Hannah Williamson.

3. Approval of Accounts 2017/8

Accounts approved. Proposed CB, Seconded JP.

4. Minutes of previous meeting on 5th May 2018.

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 11.

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. The very popular art classes run on Thursdays and Fridays. Unfortunately, the Badminton classes have been discontinued due to a lack of members.

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

We are constantly looking for new trustees. Charles James resigned from the committee in 2018. Our Treasurer has been in the post for ten years and the Charities Commission prefer not to have officers in any one position for that length of time.

St Margaret's Hall continues to maintain a healthy financial position. We retain a sensible amount (£7250) in reserve. Day to day classes no longer keep our current account in surplus and we have to raise additional funds to remain in balance. We held a Village Hall dinner and raffle in late October which raised considerable funds for the Hall. We raised our charges by a minimal amount at our Annual General Meeting in May 2018, the first rise for ten years, but still remain competitive with our immediate neighbours in the surrounding villages.

All our actions to rectify the deformed floor appear to have had the desired effect and to date the floor has not warped this winter, the second winter free of distortion.

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 and 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. Our insurers required some additional work this year and this has been carried out to their satisfaction. 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 2017 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 statement.

St Margaret's Hall continues to have a good reserves with accumulated funds standing at £7268.40 as at 31st July 2019.

The hall posted a small deficit of £429.37 for the year ended 31st March 2019. Year on year hall income only decreased by 2.8% however this was boosted by the Hall dinner fund raising event generating £1031.21 net. Both the cost of insuring the Hall as well as heating and lighting it continue to creep higher which is just a reflection of increasing fuel costs but both of these are manageable.

We just need to be cognisant that it costs approximately £4000pa to have the hall as an amenity for the community to hire/use. Because of this I think it is important to stress that a fund raising event needs to be held annually rather than every 18 months to ensure the Hall can get back to being cash flow positive (away from exceptional items). This will also provide a further buffer if we were to lose one of the classes that are regularly held in the hall.

As an aside I'd like to inform the committee that after 10 years in the role I will be standing down by the end of March 2020 (the Charity Commission recommend the role should be only for a max of 5 years). I am more than happy to help with any handover in the interim period and ensure that next years accounts are completed by the new treasurer in a timely manner.

8. Bookings report.

The Hall bookings stay very stable with it classes, WI and Parish Council meetings, that have been running for many years and still seem happy to use the Village Hall.

We have had a fitness class which ran for 5 weeks and may come back in the future and also the Pilates class from Charlton Hawthorne will be using the hall again for a number of weeks.

We are having two elections in May which is a good income for the Hall as is hired out for 15hr in one go at the top financial hourly rate.

We have had a steady stream of children, lunch and adult parties.

All in all it's been a good year

GM reported that it was now unlikely that the School would build an assembly hall within the school grounds. Hopefully, we will continue to provide those facilities for the School.

9. Sports Report.

The South Cheriton United Football club continues to field three teams.

The Veterans team ended the season in fourth place in their league. A good start for the first year they have played.

Unfortunately, the senior team were relegated from their league and as a result have decided to join a league operating in the Yeovil area rather than Dorset. This has the advantage of reducing mileage travelled.

The Under 8's don't play in a league but had a good season and will continue to play as Under 9's with the SCUFC.

The Club volunteers maintain the pitches and they are now in good condition.

The Club continues to have monetary problems due to rental costs and are grateful for the moratorium that the Hall allows for the rental of the changing rooms.

CB raised the question of the moratorium of fees the SCUFC had negotiated last year. A short discussion was held on the subject, but as OF was not present to provide details of the clubs finances, the matter will have to be discussed at a future date.

10. Resignation of Committee.

The Committee resigned.

The meeting closed at 1020.

SMM 19/5