

TURVILLE NORTHEEND VILLAGE HALL

Minutes of Annual General Meeting Held at the Village Hall on 5th October 2021

Present

David Cairns, David Faragher, Susie Phillips, Clare Barrows, Susan Faragher, Pamela Jones, Danny Fois, Angela Fois, Mark Morton, Matthew Dawson, Peter Langford, Glynis Langford and Gina Brown.

1. Apologies

Jenny Neagle (JN), Sarah Evans and Carolyn Wyndham.

2. Minutes of AGM held on 3rd October 2020

Approved

3. Chairman's report

David Cairns (DC) started his report expressing his sadness at the passing of Mike Wicks, who had made significant contributions during many years as a Trustee, 6 of which as the Chairman. He also made many other contributions to the local community and his company, help and kindness will be missed. He also expressed his thanks to Rob Oldershaw who is stepping down as a Trustee after 16 years virtually all of which as Treasurer as well as carrying out a lot of administrative and other work behind the scenes, including helping to renew the electricity contract earlier this year.

He reported that there had only been two lettings in the year due to the Covid pandemic and subsequent lockdown. Regular bookings for yoga and pilates had ceased during the lockdown and had not restarted. However table tennis and other events which had ceased had now restarted. The weekly ladies group had also ceased and moved elsewhere. Clare Barrows, the Marketing Manager has ideas for the future which she will outline further in the Management Committee meeting.

He went on to make two general points, firstly, the Trustees and Management Committee are very “Northend-centric” so he was glad to see that the Parish Council had nominated a Trustee from Turville. Greater efforts must be made to encourage residents of the whole parish and the surrounding area to use and be involved with the hall. Secondly, there have been many changes over the years in the parish and surrounding area and the activities and priorities of residents. He also felt it will be important to attract a younger generation to get involved with the Village Hall.

4. Approval of accounts for the year ended 31st March 2021

JN had prepared the accounts for the year ended 31st March 2021 which showed total income of £12,648 (compared to £11,371 last year) and expenditure of £3,465 (compared to £5,431 last year). There was a credit balance of £32,365 (compared to £23,181 last year). Income included a £10,000 Covid hospitality and leisure grant from Buckinghamshire Council which JN had obtained and the hall had qualified for as it is liable to pay business rates and operates within the sphere of leisure.

The meeting approved the accounts for year ended 31st March 2021.

DC reported that JN, the Treasurer, had now moved away from the Parish and wished to resign, so a new Treasurer will have to be appointed by the management committee.

5. The Future Viability of the Village Hall

DC had prepared a note on the future viability of the Village Hall and a financial summary of income and expenditure for the period 2016 to 2022 which were circulated as background for this item.

The financial summary showed that although the Village Hall had brought in a surplus for 4 out of the 5 previous years, there could be a deficit of over £7,000 in 2022 as a result of the high maintenance costs. The running and maintenance costs of the hall were increasing as tasks such as cleaning and treatments to preserve the floor etc. which had in the past been carried out by benevolent local residents and now have to be paid for. The hall relies heavily on income from the annual hire to the nursery school, as well as regular classes (some of which have not restarted post-pandemic), to cover these annual running costs. The hall

has benefited from some substantial sources of non-recurring income (for example filming) to cover the costs of improvements and major repairs. It has not sought donations from residents since the 1990s.

The note highlighted some of the objections raised by local residents to a hiring proposal (about a takeaway pizza van that would donate some of the money raised to charity) that had been circulated in January, in particular driving and parking on the common and the extent to which the hall should be used for activities seen as commercial and which could be seen as detrimental to other local businesses, both within and outside the parish. Similar objections for other hires would have a detrimental effect on the hall's income.

There followed a wide ranging discussion. Among the points were:

- The raising of the funds from local residents and others for the acquisition of the Hall in 1960 and the extensive works that were carried out in the 1990s.
- The Hall had been used continuously throughout its history
- Disappointment that the proposed hiring for the charity pizza event in January did not go ahead
- Parking outside the hall and on the edge of the common needed to be managed and not prevented
- Parking had not been an issue in earlier years.
- The possibility of vehicles turning in the narrow lane, rather than parking, was a concern
- While there had been a problem with a wedding party held at the hall in the past, similar problems have not arisen more recently, though there haven't been any weddings recently, although the hall should be an ideal venue for local people to celebrate marriages.
- Not enough people know about the Village Hall in the parish and surrounding area and it was not being brought to the attention of new arrivals into the area.
- Publicity about the hall goes out mainly via the Turville Parish Council e-mail network, the Turville Parish Facebook page and a Turville Parish WhatsApp group, and also through notices in the local bus shelters but the hall does not have its own e-mail distribution list.

- The hall's website seeks to attract bookings but lack of time means that only fairly basic information is currently posted.
- CB has recently signed the hall up to 2 film location sites and that she was also working on some workshop proposals which it is hoped will prove popular.
- Those who live in the vicinity of a village hall have to accept that it will be used for a large variety of uses, though those uses should be reasonable and consistent with the Hall's purpose and respect for the neighbourhood.
- While the charity pizza event was a straightforward hire the decision was made to consult residents as their support was essential to the success of the event. The information contained in the proposal was not exhaustive as the finer details could only be finalised after a decision to go ahead had been taken and it had been hoped that the proposal would generate questions rather than immediate objections.

6. Election of Members of the Committee of Management [Trustees]

Under Clause 6 (2) of the Constitution, all Trustees have to retire at the conclusion of the Annual General Meeting.

The following were re-elected to serve during the forthcoming year: David Cairns, Susie Phillips and David Faragher and Sarah Evans (subject to confirmation that she is willing to do so).

7. Noting of the Names of the Representatives of the Committee of Management [trustees]

Under Clause 6 (3) of the Constitution, all representative trustees have to retire at the conclusion of the Annual General Meeting.

The following appointments were noted:

- **Turville Parish Council:** Gina Wessels
- **Turville Parochial Church Council:** currently no member nominated.
- **Turville Village Association:** currently no member nominated.

It was noted that the Hambleden branch of the Royal British Legion had now been wound up and that the Northend Village Association no longer exists.

8. Date of Next AGM

DC suggested that the next AGM should be held earlier in the year perhaps in May