

PRISTON VILLAGE HALL
Draft Minutes of the A.G.M
Wednesday, 1st February 2023 7pm

Present:

Jocelyn Nicholls
James Franklin-Adams
David Hassard: Chair
Lissa Carter: Vice Chair
Peter Brookes: Treasurer

Jane Harvey: Committee Member
Richard Bottle: Committee Member
Sue Copperman: Committee Member
George Haines: Committee Member
Maggie Rideout: Minutes Secretary

1. Apologies: None

2. Minutes from the last AGM and Matters Arising

The minutes from the AGM on 2nd February 2022 were approved and there were no matters arising.

3. Chairman's Report

Hall Use. The Chairman reported that in the first full year after Covid-restrictions the hall was hired out a total of 267 times by 5 formal village organisations, 3 Exercise Groups, the Saturday Cafe, the Festival, a filming company and 19 private parties.

Hall Maintenance. The fabric of the hall is in relatively good shape although minor repairs are needed and the paintwork needs refreshing. Inadequate insulation has resulted in some condensation problems especially following parties in the hall. The condition of the carpark has been improved by cutting back the hornbeam but a working party will be needed this year to remove remaining moss.

Highlights of the year. This year the hall has acquired an oak bench, donated by Mike Taylor's family, a new water heater, a projector and two pre-payment meters to enable the increased costs of heating the hall to be recovered. The Committee organised a successful Jubilee Party with bonfire, photographic display, dinner, village lunch and games.

Administration. Claire Lawton has resigned from the committee due to pressure of other committee work and family commitments. The Chairman thanked Claire for her work for the Village Hall and confirmed Claire is happy to support future Village Hall events. Maggie will remain as Minutes Secretary with other secretarial duties being shared by the Officers. The Chairman gave particular thanks to Richard for keeping an eye on Covid regulations and ACRE advice for Village Halls and to Peter for battling with electricity contracts and tariffs.

Following the death of External Trustee, Tim Hughes, it was agreed that there was no formal need for a replacement for the role. The remaining External Trustee, Doug Pattison, stood down and the current committee members will act as trustees for the Village Hall.

Plans for 2023. A Village Social is planned for March and a 'Royal Event' will take place to celebrate the coronation in May. Working Parties will be arranged for the hall and the carpark.

4. Treasurer's Report and Adoption of Report

The Treasurer reported assets of £40,294 compared with £39,796 the previous year. The income for the year was £7,413 compared with £25,844 in 2021 when grants, donations and Gift Aid boosted receipts. Lettings-related income was £3,589 compared with £2,583 in 2021. Asset purchases were £820 compared with £330 in 2021 and the net surplus for the year was £498 thanks to a final Covid grant. Without that grant the income vs costs showed a net deficit of about £2000. There were no fund-raising events organised in 2022.

The cost of electricity rose significantly from June 2022 when the fixed rate contract ended and is expected to rise again when the new contract ends in the Spring. Over the year only half of the electricity costs were recovered via heater meters and use supplements. The new meters should enable us to match costs for the main hall heaters but the costs from the lights, kitchen and toilet areas will have to be covered by increased hire rates.

The hall has been improved by the purchase and fitting of new coin meters, an extra socket and the projector which together cost approximately £2,000.

An Independent Examiner's Report has been prepared by Jocelyn Nichols. No issues were raised and a signed copy will be placed on record.

The Treasurer's Report was approved and adopted unanimously.

5. Election of Officers

The existing Chair, Vice-Chair and Treasurer were proposed and seconded to remain in post. The Minutes Secretary will continue with that role and, with the other officers, will support the Chairman with general secretarial duties.

6. Election of Committee

With Claire Lawton's resignation new committee members will be sought.

James Franklin-Adams kindly agreed to join the committee. He was proposed by Richard, seconded by Maggie and welcomed by all the committee. The remaining committee members were re-elected.

Action: Peter will inform the Charity Commission of the change to the membership of the committee.

The committee members agreed to maintain the following links:

Richard Bottle: Cricket Club

Sue Copperman: Saturday Cafe and liaison with PCC through Claire Lawton

Lissa Carter: Festival

Jane Harvey: Safeguarding and diversity

George Haines: Ring of Bells

7. Village Hall Events planned for 2023

There will be a Village Social on Saturday 4th March with entertainment, supper and bar. Tickets are currently on sale.

The coronation will be celebrated with a village event on Saturday 6th May.

8. Any Other Business

No other business was raised.