

Husthwaite Village Hall

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Monday 24th October 2016

Present: Stephen Barker, Trustee (Chair), Philip Hewitson, Trustee (Secretary), Angela Sibley, Trustee (Treasurer), Jeremy Walker, Trustee, Debbie Lewis-Green, Trustee, Lynn Colton, Trustee, Craig Colton, representing Husthwaite Parish Council, Catherine Skinner, Marion Clark, Jane Donne, Liz Walton, Annabel Kennedy, Jane Maloney.

Apologies: Carol Fenwick, Trustee (Parish Council Representative), Sheila Mowatt, Trustee (Booking Secretary), John Ovenston, Gill Allanson.

1. Minutes of the AGM held on Monday 26th October 2015

The minutes were read and accepted as a true record. Proposed: Debbie Lewis-Green, Seconded: Philip Hewitson.

2. Matters arising

Philip reported on the issues raised by Cameron Smith on behalf of the Short Mat Bowling Team at the last AGM:

1. He reported that a refund of £364.70 had been given to the Short Mat Bowling Team, principally in respect of hall hire fees for the initial period when the Team was being established and the Village Hall Committee had agreed to reduce hall hire charges providing 'taster sessions' to help the Team develop; also for days when the Team had not used the hall because of poor attendance although bookings were entered in the bookings diary;
2. He reported that the key collection arrangements for the Team had worked satisfactorily during the year;
3. He noted that equipment had been purchased for the Short Mat Bowling Team during its first year by the Village Hall Committee costing £910 and reported that ownership of this equipment had been transferred to the Team at their request at the beginning of the financial year. The transfer had been agreed at the written down value of the equipment, which at that time was £637.45. This transaction had been reflected in the village hall accounts;
4. In addition to the equipment noted in (3) above, the Short Mat Bowling Team also had approximately £1,000 worth of its own equipment stored in the village hall. The Team was advised that any equipment stored in the village hall needed to be under village hall ownership and included in the hall's asset register for insurance purposes. However, Cameron Smith on behalf of the Short Mat Bowling Team rejected this proposal and the Team has therefore taken responsibility for the storage and insurance of all its equipment.

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3. Chairman's report

Stephen thanked everyone for their service towards the Village Hall over the past year, highlighting individual roles, the range of activities that had been undertaken and the continuing improvement in facilities and user comfort. Special thanks went to Debbie Lewis-Green for her fundraising efforts, which had been very successful and to John Ovenston for his expert and professional oversight of the building fabric.

He was pleased to report the nomination of the village hall as a "Club as a Hub". This concept is specifically to create a network of venues (Village Halls, Sports Clubs etc.) that will become the focal points and knowledge hubs for the area. North Yorkshire Sport was providing support for this programme. An early project had been 'Age and Dementia Awareness' and the programme was ongoing.

He thanked Husthwaite Parish Council for its support and congratulated the Parish Council on being awarded 'Parish Council of the Year for 2015' by Hambleton District Council.

He outlined some of the developments that were planned and highlighted the growing problem of storage space in the village hall for equipment, which was beginning to create a number of issues concerning access and safety.

Finally, he looked forward with confidence to the future in the belief that all the contributors to the village hall's activities were making our community better and making Husthwaite the benchmark and envy of many others.

A copy of the report is attached.

4. Treasurer's report

Philip introduced this report and explained that, because of the tight turnaround of information for the AGM at the year-end and because Angie had had particularly heavy family commitments over recent weeks, he had agreed to prepare the accounts using Angie's books, for submission to the Independent Examiner and the Charity Commission. The accounts were still subject to external examination and were therefore only provisional at this stage. Philip circulated the report and the accounts for the year. During 2015/16 the Village Hall generated a small surplus of £1,215. This surplus reflected the contribution from village hall activities to meet the running costs of the village hall and after meeting the costs of building improvements and the purchase of furniture and equipment that has not been covered by specific grant income during the year.

He explained that during the financial year the Committee had spent over £19,000 on a number of improvements, many of which has only been possible through generous donations received from some major Grants and a number of smaller donations.

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He pointed to an impressive number of events and activities over the year, which had contributed over £6,000 to village hall funds and circulated a schedule of activity and event income, which once again showed an eclectic mix of activity and creativity and the use of the hall as a community venue. He was pleased to note that Yoga and Zumba classes had been re-established during the year after the Trustees agreed to sponsor taster sessions, which had revived interest in these activities.

Finally, he reported on the three year business plan that had been published in December 2015. This outlines other activities and events that villagers had expressed an interest in seeing the Village Hall Committee pursue, with plans to increase hall usage by over the next three years.

In response to questions from Craig Colton:

- Angie explained that the market income was shown net of expenditure - e.g. advertising - and that the income from the Apple Tree Café on market days would be credited to the 'Café' heading rather than to the 'Markets' heading;
- Philip undertook to look at the accounting treatment of the new projector in the main hall and to contact Craig outside the meeting;
- Philip explained that the basis of hall hire charges to activities and events was the time shown in the bookings diary at the published hourly rates and was applied whether the activity was revenue generating (e.g. Pop-up Pub) or not (e.g. First Responders Training).

5. Election of Trustees for 2016/17

Stephen noted that:

- Carol will remain the representative of the Parish Council;
- Debbie Lewis-Green and Philip Hewitson were standing down

The nominations for the Elected Trustees on the Village Hall Committee were:

- **Stephen Barker** Nominated - Philip Hewitson, Debbie Lewis-Green;
- **Jeremy Walker** Nominated - Craig Colton, Stephen Barker;
- **Angela Sibley** Nominated - Annabel Kennedy, Philip Hewitson;
- **Lynn Colton** Nominated - Debbie Lewis-Green, Angela Sibley

All present unanimously supported the four elected trustees.

Stephen asked for expressions of interest in being co-opted onto the Village Hall Committee and Annabel Kennedy confirmed her interest. Philip reported that Sheila Mowatt was willing to continue as a co-opted member and Stephen reported that Sandie Davison was interested in joining the Village Hall Committee. These appointments and any further expressions of interest would be ratified at the next meeting of the new Trustees in November.

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6. Any Other Business

Catherine Skinner asked whether the Village Hall Committee had made local authority organisations aware of the meeting facilities at the hall. Lynn explained that there had been attempts to encourage more business use, but this was a very competitive field with local hotels etc. The village hall had had some success with Voluntary organisations and community groups, but this required constant advertising and exposure in the market place.

Craig Colton suggested that the village pub reopening might have a significant effect on the Pop-up pub. Attendances had been down since the summer break. The recent Anya Faull concert had been poorly attended and the 70s disco had been cancelled because of a lack of advanced bookings. Stephen asked whether there was anything else the Committee should be doing to increase take-up for these events, but Liz Walton said that the events were well advertised and notified to villagers and the surrounding area.

Jane Maloney outlined some information about the new orchard village trust. She said the intention was to maintain the trust over a long period into the future and that consideration would be given annually for small grants to clubs using the village hall. She suggested that club leaders (or the Village Hall Committee on their behalf) approach Orchards officially if they had any funding requests.

In closing the meeting, Stephen thanked everybody for their attendance and contributions.