

Ovingdean Village Hall minutes 12th October 2023.

Meeting started at 8.15pm.

Minutes of the AGM for 2022 held on Thursday 27th October 2022 have been available in the Hall if you wanted to read them.

Does the meeting approve the minutes?

Proposed by... **Teresa Stirling**

Seconded by... **Lorna Davies**

I would like to welcome everyone to the AGM of the Ovingdean Hall Management Committee.

Apologies for absence - Given by Mandy (Acting Secretary),

Rose Daly, Robbie and David Wilson, Julie Veck, Catherine Yeomans, Debbie Power, Ros Halls, Mike Buckingham, Ted Skinner, Martin Ebeling,

Matters Arising – not addressed elsewhere on the agenda, None.

Chairman's Report

The Hall committee met regularly throughout the year.

Hall bookings and user group meetings are back to and exceeding pre-pandemic levels. The Oxford International School are very keen to integrate with the Hall and they have booked a couple of slots for their activities. We are also expecting the teachers to join the club as members.

Thank you very much Suzie for your work and considerable patience in organising the bookings.

Everyday maintenance and gardening conducted whenever required. We do have a regular contract for the gardening and a local window cleaner comes at agreed intervals.

More major items of expenditure were the PAT testing of the electrical items. Fire extinguishers replaced, following a very comprehensive Fire Safety visit and report. Steve Wedd has agreed to be our Safety Officer, thank you Steve. This year has been more general repairs and replacements, but we will be having the hall decorated next February following four quotes received from local firms. We have chosen a Company and have agreed a start date of 19th February for approximately 2 weeks. The Hall will close throughout this time. Provisional re-opening is Monday 4th March but may be the weekend before.

At this point, I would like to express my sincere thanks to Debbie and Catherine for the immense amount of work they do in the Hall.

I know they are sunning themselves in Cape Verde at present and will not be thinking about how much they are missing the AGM but

it is safe to say that the Bar and the Hall would not run as it does without their hard work and amazing support for the Village.

At the beginning of the Hall year, we were lucky enough to have a new Secretary and Treasurer.

Unfortunately, Louise had to resign for various family reasons halfway through and I have recently had a conversation with Julie that she wishes to stand down as Treasurer.

Mandy has been kind enough to step into the breach as an acting Secretary and we are grateful for all the work she is doing.

We will need a new Treasurer, so if there is anyone here who feels they would like to join us please let me know or even if you know of anyone who we could speak to about the role. Thank you, Julie, for the work you have done during the year. Unfortunately, she could not be here tonight.

There are several people involved in the successful running of the Hall. To all the committee who put in a great amount of work to ensure everything runs as efficiently as possible, a big thank you. Also, to everyone involved in serving behind the bar and keeping the hall clean, especially Debbie, ensuring it is ready for use and clearing up any mess afterwards. Also, to the gardeners who look after the patio and flower beds.

Please remember, the Hall is run by volunteers who are willing to give their time to make the village hall a warm and welcoming place to come. Things do not always run completely smoothly but we do our best to ensure things turn out right in the end. Please support the events, bar and family nights and other functions run by the multitude of clubs and user groups.

This is my 9th AGM as Chair and I apologise if much of what you have heard is remarkably familiar, but it is difficult to put what I want and need to say in different words. It is a pleasure to be your chair and to meet with so many wonderful people on a regular basis.

Thank You

Included on the agenda is 'Proposed merger of Hall and Club.'

For those of you who do not know the history of the Hall and club, when we applied for Charity status in 1988, we were told the Hall can be a charity, however the club would have to be separate because a charity cannot be wholly reliant of the sale of alcohol for its funds. Hence the club was set up.

This situation has now changed, and the Hall is not reliant on the club alcohol sales for its income. You can see from the accounts that the other income streams are higher than what is transferred from the club. It is only sensible to look at the current year as the 3 years previous have been decimated by Covid.

It is our proposal, with your agreement to merge the Hall and Club for the purposes of accounting and the Charity Commission.

Richard has spoken to the Charity Commission, and they now see no reason we cannot merge.

There will be no real visible difference in the way things operate. The Club will still be run by a committee and the Chair will be a Trustee of the Hall Committee as has always been the case. This Committee will still make the decisions about the club and the everyday running of it. At the end of the year, the results will be amalgamated into one set of accounts with one AGM.

This is a basic outline of our proposal. If the meeting approves this, we will put the details together to ensure it runs smoothly with the input of both Committees.

Are there any questions?

Christine asked how many committees would be needed, Richard replied two and in principle things would run the same. The hall does not want to be involved in running of club, sub committees will be made. No change will be noticeable. The main positive would be to only have one set of accounts at the end of each financial year alongside saving money with insurances, bought to the room by Lorna Davis. Christine raised the issue of insurance being the same price Richard replied that hopefully being one it would be cheaper as one Company. Richard said we can run this the way we want and can talk about this as we go into the merger.

Faye asked what would happen if bar takings overtook the user groups, Richard said he did not think that would happen, if it did, we take point on board and discuss. Marion Higgins stated the rule was set years ago and that the sole income was the bar.

Alison then wanted to clarify dual savings and less people to find...one treasurer and one secretary.

Can we have a vote?

Proposed by Suzie Baird

Seconded by Nick Baird

Majority of the floor agreed, Abstention by Christine, Richard replied we did not have all information as not sure it would have been voted in favour of, so finer details could be thrashed out. So, in principle it was good. Richard thanked everyone.

Whilst looking at the merger, the 'Area of Benefit' has been discussed. This was again set up in 1988 and a radius of 1200 metres from the Village Hall was deemed sufficient to encompass what Brighton Borough Council called the Ovingdean Neighbourhood.

With the new development in Ovingdean Road and the new apartments about to be built at Blind Veterans. we feel the area should be widened slightly to include these and the potential for new members. We are proposing an increase to 1500 metres radius from the village hall. Richard has spoken to the Charity Commission, and they agree that we can do this under the terms we operate under.

Any questions?

Why was it 1200 metres, Mike Higgins reported that at the time, charity commission said a circumference of the village hall was to be used. Marion Higgins asked Richard if he had measured this area out as to where the new boundaries would be, he said he had done it manually and it would include Blind veterans, Rottingdean, more of Woodingdean and a little of Roedean and would go out to sea!

Lorna asked if old rules still apply. Associate members pay more for first year. Could we change? Pauline then said that guests can be signed in and everyone can access classes and groups and people choose what they want to be involved in. A Circle diagram is the suggested method to draw area and keep to what we know, Russell suggested good idea to keep existing area and extend.

Can we have a vote?

Proposed by Russell Smith

Seconded by David Day

Majority of the room agreed.

Richard thanked the room.

Richard then reported on Julie's behalf her treasurer report. Please find these attached.
CCLA not up to date. Awaiting the Statement

True reflection

Proposed by Marion Higgins

Seconded by Pat Anderson.

Election. Re-elect the existing elected members of the committee seeking re-election for 2023/2024 are Richard Lintott, Martin Ebeling, Steve Wedd, Suzie Baird, Russell Smith, and Mandy Saunders

Please can we have a proposer and seconder to re-elect these six in a block....

We have vacancies for a Treasurer and Secretary.

Just to remind you, the committee elected at the AGM will be appointed into the committee at the first meeting which is on November 28th.

User Group Representatives

The User Group representatives nominated by each group to attend the Hall meetings and should be at the AGM.

Arts Club	TBC Julie Palling to stand down.
Bowls Club	Marion Higgins
Gardening Club	Lorna Davies
ORPS	Bernadette Skinner
Village Club	Geoff Woods
St Wulfrans/PCC	Pat Couchman
WI	Teresa Stirling

are the ones that are eligible to vote. You can send a representative to the meetings if you cannot attend but they cannot vote.

Proposed by Sheila Buckingham

Seconded by Pat Anderson.

Diana Woolridge said Julie Palling did not want to be a trustee. Committee members suggested they find another representative. Committee agreed she could not continue unless she became a trustee.

To Appoint an Independent Examiner.

John Bryant has said he is willing to continue. Thanks to John for agreeing to carry on. I presume there are no other nominations or volunteers.

Proposer Teresa Stirling

Secunder Derrick Stirling

Our thanks to John Byrant.

Any Other business

Sheila Buckingham suggested that the ploughman's fee to be increased to £5.00. Everyone agreed to this and to start as soon as possible. Mandy to ask Catherine to include this information in an email to members.

Proposed by Sheila Buckingham

Seconded by David Day

Christine asked about booking online system. Suzie is looking into this with Russell and will start the system once her life is a little less busy! And will be organised as soon as possible.

Once again, thank you for coming, meeting closed. 8.50pm
There will follow the AGM of the Ovingdean Village Club.

Ovingdean Village hall**Charity number****Income and expenditure for the year ended 31st August 2023**

	2023		2022	
Income				
User groups	8,456		7,180	
Club	11,500			
Hall hire	3,905		2,656	
Events	554			
Ploughmans	1,011		334	
Raffle	298			
Total income		25,723		10,170
Expenditure				
Major repairs over £250	-		3,281	
General maintenance	920		544	
Cleaning	5,735		4,800	
Gardening	1,245		930	
Light & heat	3,618		2,715	
PHS	390		354	
Rent	1,650		1,650	
Rates	254		298	
Water rates	370			
Insurance	1,507		232	
Fire inspection and security	678			
Electrical	642			
PRS	244		454	
Telephone and broadband	335		361	
Postage and stationery	153		33	
Sundries	505		1,037	
Total expenses		18,245		16,689
Profit/(deficit) for the year		7,478	-	6,519

Balance sheet as at 31st August 2023**Assets and Liabilities**

Cash in hand	100		1,692	
Cash at bank	13,236		4,165	
Deposit account	5	13,340	5	5,862
Investments				
CCLA		64,027		63,313
		77,367		69,175
Reserves				
Reserves as at 1st Sept 2022		69,175		77,119
Profit/(deficit) for the year	7,478	-	6,519	
Increase/ (decrease) in investment for the year	714	8,192	-	12,944
Reserves as at 31st Aug 2023		77,367		64,175

EXAMINERS REPORT OIVINGDEAN VILLAGE HALL YEAR ENDING 31 AUGUST 2023

Report to the trustees/
members of

Ovingdean Village Hall

On accounts for the year
ended

1/8/23

Charity no

240453

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

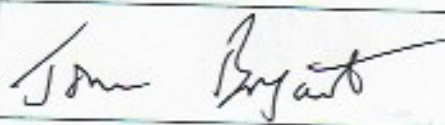
Independent
examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (other than that disclosed below *) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:



Date:

8/12/23

8/12/23

Name:

John A Bryant

Address:

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Rottingdean
BN2 7DX