

Kilmington Village Hall Annual General Meeting

Wednesday 20th April 2022 at 7:30

Present: Judith Chapman (JC) chair; Pauline Horwood (PH) treasurer; Steve Boon (SB) maintenance; Louise Quincy (LQ), bookings secretary; Sally Dare (SD) committee
Edward Martens (EM) Sequence Dancing; John Watts (JW) Kilmington Cinema Club; Jenny Nickolls (JN) Table Tennis Club; Jane Chalk (JC) Gardening Club; Peter Ball (PB) KPC; Jean Falconer (JF) Royal British Legion; Sally Huscroft (SH) KPC; Gill Perkins (GP) Country Dancing; Susan D'Grady (village resident)); Jerry Fisher (village resident).

Apologies: Lee White, Head, Kilmington Primary School.

JC opened the AGM by welcoming everyone and thanking them for coming.

Matters arising from the Minutes of the Combined AGM/Regular Users meeting in 2021

JC stated there are two corrections to the minutes of the Combined AGM and Regular Users meeting on 26th May 2021.

1. Country Dancing was incorrectly referred to as Line Dancing.
2. Under AOB discussion re chairs in the VH had been omitted. JC said she would come back to this later in this meeting.

Chair's Report

JC reported that we have had a number of management committee meetings to re-distribute the jobs of running the hall, combined with making the best of our committee members' skills.

JC advised that we are delighted to have another member to join our Management Committee. SD has been to a number of meetings to meet the committee and find out what is involved. SD was nominated to join the committee by JF and seconded by SH to be an officer and a trustee to Kilmington Village Hall Committee.

JC said the Committee has discussed the village hall chairs and talked informally with a number of village hall users to get their views. We received little critical comment about the chairs except from KCC members. The committee has concluded that we cannot justify replacing the chairs in the current financial situation. In addition to financial issues, the fact is that no one chair will suit everyone and it is a big project to replace the chairs. LQ added we would also have an environmental issue in disposing of the chairs. JW said people have to bring cushions and they find the chairs uncomfortable to sit on. Could we not explore different styles and designs or modify our current chairs? JC responded saying we cannot justify changing the chairs at this present time. JW asked if this topic could not be filed away and forgotten and could we come back and re-visit at some point in the future. JC agreed.

Treasurer's Report

PH handed around copies of accounts 2021 and new hall charges, with effect from 1st May 2022.

PH advised our accounts for 2021 appear to be very healthy due to the £11,700 of Crowdfunding and Gift Aid which passed through our account on behalf of Kilmington Cinema Club which has made a good start. We also received further EDDC grants totalling £8,500 for Covid 19 compensation. We know our expenditure on electricity alone will more than double from 1st July 2022, and other contractors/suppliers will also increase charges despite our efforts to keep our costs under control. After two difficult years since our last review of hire charges we are making a modest increase with effect from 1st May 2022 to help balance our finances for the next year.

100+ Club – PH thanked JF for all her hard work running the 100+ club. We had 225 members at the end of 2021. The available funds are always used to maintain the hall and we are very grateful for everyone's help.

JC thanked PH and commented we are keeping our increases to a minimum; we are not here to make profit but we must cover our costs. The hire charges will be reviewed again in a couple of months. As there were no questions, JC thanked PH for the work she undertakes.

Booking Secretary's report

LQ reported all the weekly regular bookings have now resumed and are running as before Covid 19. One-off bookings are more of a mixed picture. Children's parties have taken off recently. The larger one-off events are slower to resume. Bookings for village based larger one-off/annual events are beginning but there is still some hesitancy. Most enquiries come in over email which LQ thanked everyone for as this is a lot easier. LQ asked if you could ring another member of the committee if anyone had an urgent matter regarding the hall which cannot wait till later in

the day as she is not contactable through the day. JC thanked all the hall clubs for their booking and for getting all the groups up and running so quickly after Covid. JC thanked LQ for the work she undertakes.

Maintenance report

SB reported all general maintenance is up to date at present. We have a new light in the carpark. The light switch is in the cupboard, there is a 3-minute delay to the light going off in the car park once the light has been turned off. We have just had an incident in the hall where a window was accidentally broken. This is being sorted and will be repaired shortly. We have painting to be completed in the summer. The hall floor is in good condition. Generally, we are in a good place. No questioned were raised.

JC thanked SB.

Reports from Regular User Groups

JC asked the regular user groups for their reports and if they had any concerns.

JF (on behalf of RBL) asked where are we with WiFi. SB reported that our biggest issue has been that we had not formally been allocated to a post code, which has now recently been resolved although there are still problems with some suppliers. Until Broadband sites can see premises on a postcode on their system, they cannot quote us. We have three options, which all have a cost. There is a question regarding how we going to cover these costs, especially the monthly charge. We are waiting on Openreach to give us a price to install a new line, cost unknown but is likely to be in the thousands. Option 1 is copper broadband at around £280 a year for up to 50 Mbps, this will need the initial line connection costs to be included. Option 2 is mobile broadband at £35 + VAT per month and only has a rate up to 25Mbps but does not need a line connection. Option 3 is fibre broadband which is planned for the Village and for which the Village Hall has registered. The consensus was to wait for fibre broadband as it will give the fastest connection. JW suggested that the hall committee ask hall users if they require broadband and share the monthly cost to their hire charges. It was suggested that the Cudmore Room would be more hireable if we had broadband. Most village halls in the area now have broadband. Some hirers had issues with visitors being unable to pay by card. If we had broadband the Kilmington Cinema Club could start streaming which would increase what the hall could offer. If fibre broadband is the recommended option it was agreed we wait for this to be available.

PB was unsure if we were aware that the Community Building Fund has now opened up again. He suggested that maybe we should look at adding solar panels to the roof with batteries as most electricity is used by night, so we can be as green as possible. He also advised the Parish Council has a fund for Capital projects and may be able to help. JC thanked him for the funding information and agreed that we will look into these.

Table tennis - JN asked that we advise hall users if they use the tea towels they must wash and return them. Also, when she last used the hall, some lights had been left on from a previous hall user.

JC reported that on a hall check she found tables were put away incorrectly and were blocking a fire door.

All other hall users had nothing to report.

Date of next meeting

Wednesday 19th April 2023 at 7.30 pm

Any other business

JC advised that we need to attract another 1-2 people to join the hall management committee. She asked all hall users to ask their groups if anyone would come forward. JN commented that over the last 2 years a lot of people have moved into the village, so could we not have a coffee morning for newcomers? JC asked SH if this was not something the PC usually arranges. SH advised that the PC had to stop sending out the welcome packs due to covid but this might be put on a forthcoming PC agenda. If this was not pursued the VH committee might consider running a coffee morning. At our next meeting we will discuss. JC asked if all the hall users would have a stall/presence at the newcomer's coffee morning. All groups agreed.

JC thanked everyone for coming.

Meeting closed at 8:12.

John ACH 19th April 2023

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To: The Kilminster Village Hall Management Committee

23rd February 2022

In accordance with the Charities Act 1993, I have carried out an Independent examination of the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2021. My examination includes a review of the accounting records kept and a comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes considering any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning such matters.

During the examination no matter has come to my attention which indicates that the proper accounting records have not been kept and no matter has come to my attention that requires attention to be drawn.

I therefore consider that the financial statements give a fair and accurate record of the financial affairs of the Committee.

The accounting records were presented in an exemplary manner and I should like to commend the Treasurer, Pauline Horwood, for her accuracy, diligence and presentation.



J H Mellows