

MINUTES OF WEST MEON VILLAGE HALL AGM
held on Thursday, 27th April 2023 at 7.30pm
at the Sports Pavilion (part of the Annual Parish meeting)

Welcome & Apologies for Absence

The meeting was chaired by Mary Dawson who welcomed everyone to the Village Hall AGM.

Apologies for Absence

Chris Town

Minutes of AGM held 28th April 2022

As the Minutes had been circulated to the Committee and put on the website, they were not read at the meeting. Mary Dawson asked the meeting if they were happy for the Minutes to be signed as a true and correct record. This was approved.

Trustees Annual Report & Accounts

Chris Town had written the Annual Report which was read by Mary Dawson. A copy is held with these minutes together with a copy of the signed accounts which are also on the website. The main points are summarised as follows:

- 2022 once again felt like a 'normal' year without the various interruptions and changes caused by Covid-19.
- While the hall is in a reasonable state of repair given the age and construction of the building, planned and unplanned works were carried out during the year. The main hall and lobby were repainted to keep them in a clean and hireable condition. Significant costs included the replacement of the fire door at the end of the corridor and emergency repairs to roof leaks.
- Our rental income has returned to something approaching pre-Covid levels and while the main hall is generally well used, the small hall is not in use for most of the time. Physical activities include Boxercise, Dance, Yoga, Keep Fit and Pilates. The WI, West Meon Theatre, including LAMDA, classes, have all been regular users. Pop In Cafés, table top sales, quizzes and parties have all taken place during the year, but the committee are constantly seeking ways to attract additional users.
- Maintenance costs for the year totalled £7,924 (2021: £4,025) and increased electricity costs £5,121 for the year (2021: £3,039) meant the charity incurred an operating loss of £5,619 (2021: £3,835) on our normal activities. We received grants of £5,216, Winchester City Council £4,866 and West Meon Parish Council £350. (2021: £17,374). This resulted in a total reduction in our funds of £291, which is manageable. However, grants are unlikely to continue, and the Trustees need to ensure the hall continues to be a viable asset for the long term.

- Hire charges have increased by 17.5% from April 2023 and we have reduced our professional cleaning to once a week. As part of the plan to reduce our carbon footprint, we have offset our carbon emissions for 2022 and so can claim to be carbon net zero. We have plans to add solar panels and battery storage, as well as replacing our inefficient and difficult-to-control heating. However, these are subject to the availability of grants.
- The report concluded by thanking the volunteer Trustees and committee members for keeping the hall running smoothly. Emily Allen joined as a new member in 2022, and Neil Falconer and Cheryl Adams resigned after the year end. Thanks went to them for their support.

Rosemary Morrish outlined plans for a community cinema in the hall to attract more revenue. Moviola, who in the past have rented out equipment and shown films at different locations, have been very helpful. Equipment now needs to be purchased rather than rented.

Grants have been received of £4,300 from the Winchester City Council Project Fund, £500 from the WI, and £500 from the Parish Council. This has enabled us to purchase a projector, audio equipment and screen which are in the process of being installed. It is hoped the cinema will be up and running by mid summer. Volunteers will be needed and someone to run the bar has already been recruited.

Chris Nicholson asked whether the committee, in their planning for attracting new users, had considered the balance between regular users and 'one off' parties, etc. He suggested that regular user bookings might prohibit 'one off' bookings and would this affect potential income. The Bookings Secretary advised that regular bookings tended to be during term time and mostly in the day, while the 'one off' parties, etc tended to be at weekends and during evenings; so no clashes at present but it is something we need to bear in mind. It is acknowledged we need to try and attract hirers for the small hall. The committee are in the process of installing Wi-Fi and it is hoped this will attract further users.

That the report and accounts be accepted proposed by Rosemary Morrish and seconded by Hugh Morris.

Appointment of Independent Examiner for Accounts

Jane Willcox undertook this role in 2022 and is happy to undertake it again for 2023.

Resignation of Trustees

Trustees resign after a three-year term and the resignations this year are Chris Town, Mary Dawson, and Rosemary Morrish.

Election of Trustees

The Trustees, named above, are all happy to stand again. Emily Allen joined the committee in June 2022 and Nigel Haigh has agreed to take on the role of Treasurer.

Formal election of the above five Trustees to the committee was proposed by Barbara Shaw and seconded by Caroline Butcher.

Election of Trustees to the officer roles will take place at the next Village Hall Committee meeting.

Any Other Business

As there was no Other Business, the meeting closed at 19.50.

Signed:

Date: