

St John's (Kingsdown) Village Hall

Registered Charity Number 302777

The Annual General Meeting of the St John's (Kingsdown) Village Hall was held on 25th March 2015 at St John's (Kingsdown) Village Hall at 7pm.

Record of those present:-

Community Reps: - Mary Fish (Chair), and Jane Banks (Secretary)

User Groups: - Doreen Clark – Parish Council Rep (Treasurer), Alan Smith - Parochial Church Council Rep, and Raeanne Nightingale – Preschool rep

Members of the public - Mike Glavin (bookings and maintenance officer), and two members of the public (Sylvia Main and Annie Ballinger).

Apologies: – Helen Williams, Anthony Graham, Barbara and Nick Hansom and Ray Stanley.

Minutes of 2014 Annual General Meeting: - Agreed as a true record. Proposed by Sylvia Main, seconded by Alan Smith and signed by Mary.

Matters arising: - There were no matters arising

The Chair thanked everyone for coming to the St John's (Kingsdown) Village Hall AGM, asked everyone to sign the attendance sheet and offered refreshments to the attendees. Copies of last year's minutes and the accounts were distributed, and a copy of the present Deed of Trust, the governing document, was available for reference.

Chairman's report:-

The reason for the AGM is to present the Accounts for the year 2014 to 2015, to accept the resignation of the outgoing committee with thanks for their efforts, and to answer any questions put to the Trustees.

Firstly, the chair expressed her thanks to each and every member of the committee who have all worked hard to manage the hall on behalf of the community. Thanks were also expressed to the maintenance officer and caretaker, for his professional advice and help.

The hall is now a DDC registered emergency evacuation centre.

The Trustees have made many improvements to the hall during the past year. The outside lighting and notice board have been installed, the lighting in the main hall has been updated, and the floor has been refurbished and made good with reclaimed wood. All these improvements were paid for mainly by KCC Neighbourhood grants, and the Trustees thank the maintenance officer for his musical contribution to the winning appeals.

Problems of damp due to condensation have been addressed – the ventilation has been increased by installing dehumidifiers and fixing ventilators to the attic space. Thanks are due to Pre-school who contributed to the cost of three dehumidifiers and two new fridges.

The Conservation Group donated a wall basket; the Trustees matched it and planted both of them. A new carpet has been laid in the lower hall.

Thanks are expressed to the members of the community who came forward and helped with the village hall gardening day and also for the donation of plants and cakes for the gardeners!

The Secretary organised a Christmas event in December with the Singing for Pleasure group, which was appreciated by many.

The radiator covers have all been replaced with 'child friendly' ones, the cost split between preschool and the hall.

The Trustees applied for a grant to the Parish Council for roof insulation but will reapply now the new lighting has been installed.

A returnable deposit for key collection of £25 was introduced when the secretary took responsibility for the booking diary, and with all the improvements, there is an increase in bookings.

The Chair thanked everyone for all their help.

This concluded the chair's statement.

Treasurer's report:-

The Treasurer presented the 2014 income versus expenditure accounts, which are recorded on the Charity Commission's website. The bank balances shown include the emergency fund of £2500.

The Trustees had agreed these figures on 3rd March 2015.

The Treasurer said the next grant application will be for the replacement of all the windows. This was likely to be for approximately £20,000.

Mike Glavin proposed the acceptance of the accounts, seconded by Rae Nightingale, and passed unanimously.

Reports from user groups

Parochial Church Council – the rep had nothing to report

Parish Council – the rep said the Parish Council use Kingsdown's hall during the winter months as the hall is warmer, and Ringwold during the summer months.

Women's Institute – no report

Pre-School – Report prepared by Raeanne Nightingale (Chairperson, Kingsdown Pre-School)

'Kingsdown Pre-School is a self-supporting group and registered charity. It first opened its doors in the 1970s and 39 years on, it is still a successful and caring environment where children come and play and achieve their early learning goals.

We currently employ eight staff and one volunteer who runs snack club every Tuesday or Wednesday. Kingsdown Pre-School runs its sessions every weekday morning during term time with a lunch club offered each day except Tuesdays. Numbers are looking good and we are now full on a Wednesday. After Easter we will be almost at capacity on Mondays and Fridays. Every Tuesday afternoon during term time, we run a popular and friendly Parent & Baby/Toddler Group.

I'm pleased to say that we have most of the same staff in place who, as usual, are all doing a fantastic job with the excellent guidance of Supervisors Ann Jackson and Denise Hodge. However we sadly said goodbye to Gemma last year but she has been replaced by former pre-school mum Sarah Knight, who is proving to be a real asset to the school.

Our annual Easter Egg Hunt is coming up on April 4th and we also look forward to participating in the primary school's summer fair in June.

The pre-school continues to benefit from the better facilities in the hall and we hope further improvements to the venue will enhance the environment even further.

Hundreds of children have passed through our doors since the pre-school first opened and its association with the village hall, the primary school and the village community is stronger than ever today. We are of course hugely appreciative of the support we receive from the village and we look forward to the next 39 years!

Announcement of User Group Reps (Appointed Trustees)

The Secretary said she had written confirmation of the following appointments.

Pre-School – Raeanne Nightingale (until their AGM in October)

Women's Institute – Sue Parker-White (replacing Jenny Wall)

Parochial Church Council – Alan Smith

Parish Council – Doreen Clark (until their AGM in May)

Appointment of tellers - Not required, as the total number of Community Representatives allowed under the Deed of Trust is now ten.

Nominations for Community Trustees:-

Jane Banks and Mary Fish were prepared to stand again. Mike Norfolk is standing down. The Secretary had received nominations from Barbara Hansom and Nick Hansom. All four community representatives were elected. (Proposed by Rae Nightingale, seconded by Alan Smith, and passed unanimously.

Any other Business:-

The Secretary reported that we now have two yoga instructors (Tuesday evenings and Saturday mornings). The table tennis group meet regularly on Thursday evenings throughout the year. The Secretary had asked Zumba, Pilates and keep fit class instructors if they would hold classes in the hall, but feedback was that the timing of the classes was very important, and previous interest from the community was too low to be cost effective. Kent Adult Education had held two art and painting courses, but as the third one was undersubscribed, it was cancelled. Many people had commented favourably about the improvements to the hall when they came to the public meeting for the recent community survey results.

Date/Venue of 2016 Annual General Meeting:-

Wednesday 30th March, 2016 at St John's (Kingsdown) Village Hall at 7pm

The Meeting closed at 7.40pm

The newly elected committee convened a meeting to elect the officers for 2015/16. Mary Fish was appointed Chair, Jane Banks was appointed Secretary and Doreen Clark was appointed Treasurer (proposed by Rae, seconded by Alan Smith).

Signed.....

Dated.....