

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

Record of those present:-

Community Reps: - Mary Fish (MF - Chair), and Jane Banks (JB - Secretary), Barbara Hansom (BH) and Nick Hansom (NH)

User Groups:- Doreen Clark – Parish Council Rep (DC - Treasurer), Alan Smith – (AS) Parochial Church Council Rep, Anna Taylor – (AT) Preschool rep (arrived at 7.35pm), Sue Parker-White (SP-W), WI rep and Simon Longland,(SL) table tennis rep

Members of the public - Mike Glavin (bookings and maintenance officer), and five members of the public (Helen Williams, Sylvia Main, Sharon Morris, Ros Beresford and Ron Broadley).

Apologies: – Val Trewartha, and Ray Stanley.

Minutes of 2015 Annual General Meeting: - Agreed as a true record. Proposed by MF, seconded by AS and signed by MF.

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:-

We have had work done to our Village Hall to make sure that we are fully compliant with all regulations for village halls. Throughout the year we have had grants from Kingsdown and Ringwould Parish Council, Kingsdown Rocks, Deal Fire Brigade and Dover District Council Members' grant. I should like to thank Jane for all her hard work in getting these grants.

We have had a gift from Mrs. Perry's family of a defibrillator for the village. With the grants received and help from Mrs. Perry's family, we purchased the box to fix the defibrillator to the village hall wall, and we will make sure we meet all ongoing costs.

The trees were pollarded last March, and we were advised that they were rotten, so this March we had them removed.

We have had a new electric hob and microwave in the kitchen; the toilets will be redecorated and lever handles have been put on all taps.

Last March we tasked Nick Hanson to research new windows. Nick spoke to many people and obtained many estimates. We finally decided that the best way forward was secondary glazing for windows with the original metal works, and replacement windows for the remainder. The original windows will be thoroughly cleaned and repainted, thus keeping the overall look of our village hall. Doreen is looking in to the Lottery which we hope to apply for during the summer. I would like to thank Doreen and Nick for their hard work.

This, along with the insulation in the roof should make the hall warm, and minimise running costs.

I should like to thank our maintenance officer, Mike, without whom none of this would happen, and if he could not do it, he knows a man who could!

Finally, I would like to thank our committee members who do such a good job, and without them we could not keep the village hall going.

This concluded the chair's statement.

Treasurer's report:- The Treasurer presented the 2015 income versus expenditure accounts, and explained that we now have just one account, which includes an emergency fund of £2500.

The Trustees had agreed these figures at their meeting held on 9th February 2016.

Income £17,330.84 Expenditure £11,378.22 Income over expenditure £5,952.62

The treasurer commented that a grant will be needed for the windows, which will conclude the refurbishment programme.

Helen Williams asked if the lower hall use had increased. JB replied saying the preschool use it during their sessions, but it was not booked as much as we had hoped.

The increase in hall revenue had increased, largely due to our improvements, and had attracted a new dance class, and some KCC bookings. The table tennis group, who have expanded their club, now meet on both Tuesday and Thursday nights.

MF proposed the acceptance of the accounts, seconded by AS, and passed unanimously.

Reports from user groups:-

Parish Council – DC rep said the Parish Council use Kingsdown's hall during the winter months as the hall is warmer, and Ringwould during the summer months. This arrangement suits parishioners and councillors.

Parochial Church Council – the rep had nothing to report

Women's Institute – SP-W reported that the WI is probably the oldest user group using the hall. The group was established in 1952, and, apart from a break during the war years, they have used the hall continuously ever since. They are now in their 65th year, with a membership of 72, whose ages range from 56 to 88! The group meets on the second Monday of each month, and alternates between Kingsdown and Ringwould halls, offering a wide variety of topics. The group would like to thank the Trustees for the improved facilities, and Mike Glavin for his help – always with a smile! On behalf of the whole group, SP-W and the new President, Jenny Wall, would like to say thank you, and long may we continue.

Table Tennis – SL reported that the club has 3 tables set up per session. They now have approximately 10-12 people on Tuesdays and 12-16 on Thursdays, and as a club, they like to support the village hall wherever possible.

Pre-School – Report prepared by Anna Taylor (Chairperson, Kingsdown Pre-School)

'Kingsdown Pre-School is a self-supporting group and registered charity. It is one of the few remaining traditional Pre-Schools providing a wonderful, nurturing, caring and educational environment for children aged 2 – 4 years old. Hundreds of children have passed through our doors since the Pre-school first opened in 1976 and this year we look forward to celebrating our 40th anniversary.

Kingsdown Pre-School runs morning sessions from 9.15am – 1pm every weekday morning during term time except Tuesdays when we finish at 12.15. The limited hours offered means that it cannot compete with nurseries as a childcare solution for many working families but despite this, it continues to be a popular choice and the Pre-School is almost full on every session now and there are waiting lists for most days. In addition to this, every Tuesday afternoon during term time, we run a friendly Parent & Baby/Toddler Group which many local families also benefit from.

We are fortunate to have a very experienced and skilled team in place who are all doing a fantastic job with the excellent guidance of Supervisors Denise Hodge and Jeanette Thomson. However, we sadly said goodbye to Ann Jackson last year who has been a highly regarded and valued member of staff since the doors first opened in 1976 and the Pre-School continues to benefit from her legacy.

As a charity, the Pre-School relies on government funding, fees for non-funded children and fund-raising events organised by the Pre-School committee to keep it going. Government funding has not increased in the last 5 years and this has put pressure on the Pre-School which made a loss last year.

Last weekend we held our annual Easter Egg Trail with over 200 children attending, despite the squally weather, and as well as it being a lovely family afternoon, we were able to raise much needed funds for the Pre-School. Earlier in the year, the Pre-School committee put on another popular Bavarian Beer festival in the school hall which was a great success both as an enjoyable evening and raising money. More fund-raising events are planned for the rest of the year and we thank the village for supporting these events and making them part of the Village social calendar.

The recent improvements made to the Village hall are of course hugely welcomed by the Pre-School and Mike Glavin continues to be a great maintenance support in keeping it a safe and appropriate venue for the Pre-School. We hope to enjoy many more years in partnership with the Village Hall, the village primary school and of course the thriving Kingsdown community, all of which contribute to the success of our unique and cherished Pre-School. '

Announcement of User Group Reps (Appointed Trustees)

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

Pre-School – Anna Taylor (until their AGM in October)

Women’s Institute – Sharon Morris (replacing Sue Parker-White)

Parochial Church Council – Alan Smith

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

Table Tennis – Simon Longland

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

Nominations for Community Trustees:-

Jane Banks, Mary Fish and Nick Hansom were prepared to stand again. Barbara Hansom is standing down.

The Secretary had received a nomination from Val Trewartha.

All four community representatives were elected. (Proposed by Helen Williams, seconded by Ros Beresford, and agreed unanimously. Thanks were expressed to BH.

Any other Business:-

SP-W offered to continue to look after the flowers in the wall baskets on either side of the front notice board. Sue was also thanked for her help on the committee during the past year.

Mike reported that the defibrillator will be installed next to the notice board on Thursday 7th April.

Ros Beresford queried the ownership of the hall as a community asset, and asked if the premises are on the land registry. MF said the Trustees will look into this.

ACTION

Helen asked about internet connection in the hall, and specifically in the lower hall. AT assured the meeting that once preschool has ensured internet security, they intend to make changes to their limited contract, install a new router with fibre optic technology within the next few months and work with the rest of the committee to share their internet facility.

Ros Beresford queried the use of the rear exit now that the adjoining land has planning consent. MF replied saying that the Trustees are liaising with Jason Oliver, who has promised to make good this exit.

Date/Venue of 2016 Annual General Meeting:-

Wednesday 29th March, 2017 at St John’s (Kingsdown) Village Hall at 7pm

The Meeting closed at 7.50pm

The newly elected committee convened a meeting to elect the officers for 2016/17

Mary Fish was appointed Chair, Jane Banks was appointed Secretary and Doreen Clark was appointed Treasurer.

The next Trustee meeting will be held on Tuesday 3rd May at 7.30pm in the lower hall.

Signed.....

Dated.....