

ALVERDISCOTT & HUNTSHAW ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Minutes of Annual Parish Meeting held Wed.11th May 2022 **in Huntshaw Village Hall**

Present Cllrs White, Ley, Easterbook, Huxtable and Hardwicke. Mrs. Ley,
Mrs. White Ms. L. Wall, H. Bolton, Lock, Messrs P. Denard, D.Potter

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Apologies None

1. Minutes of previous Annual Parish Meeting - there were no minutes available

2. Matters arising - none

3. External reports - none

4 Community reports

a) Huntshaw Village Hall

As we know it has been a further challenging period since our last AGM in August last year but with restrictions lifting we look forward to some great community events. While we couldn't have the VEday celebration we all wanted, we did have the fantastic Halloween Skittles and Pasty night – and have got the following events lined up we're working towards:

- Sunday 5th June – Great British Street PartyAnd

later in the year a return of;

- Harvest Supper
- Halloween Skittles
- Christmas Party

The finances looking into the future look strong, hall bookings are on the rise – in thanks to our friends at the Church. It's also worth noting that we welcome back the Parish Council who will be returning here on the 11th May for their AGM.

As a committee we've come a long way – we've put in place a great team of individuals who've driven things forwards. We've reached out and put on events, given the place a much need facelift with new lighting, an audio visual system, a fresh coat of paint, as well as new planters, a noticeboard, key safe... But away from those material things, we're reunited the hall with the community. Rebuilt damaged relationships with neighbours and also with our beautiful church.

Our Secretary, Suzy, and Treasurer, Jenny, have done an absolutely incredible job to help us get back on our feet when Covid struck just 4 months, and a week after our first event which so many of our neighbours and friends came to. They deserve so much thanks and appreciation because the hard work is not just what you can see, it is significant.

I dare not think how many emails, Whatsapp, Zoom or text messages in the past 3 years have

occurred – this Hall firmly became part day to day life and in some respects became an additional job which just as much responsibility.

A special thank you to Jenny for your effort over the past 2 and a half years is duly noted – handing the baton on to Caroline who more recently joined us.

However, now is the right time for me to step back and let someone else take that enthusiasm for the Parish Hall forwards. We've done a lot as a group and a community to turn this hall around – even during dark and challenging times for the past few years.

And with that, I'd like to thank every member of the Parish Hall Committee for all your efforts and the community for their contributions and attendance and wish you all the very best for the future.

b) Alverdiscott Village Hall – report read by Mrs. White

ALVERDISCOTT COMMUNITY HALL

Report for the Year January to December 2021

With covid restrictions in place at the beginning of the year there were no activities at the Hall. However, that was not all bad news. The government's covid grant scheme was very generous and we received in excess of £16k, this was on top of the £11k received the previous year. Bookings began to pick up in the spring and by the summer our regular groups were all back with us. Covid restrictions were reviewed by the committee on a regular basis to ensure the safety of all Hall users.

We now have regular bookings on Mondays to Thursdays in the evenings leaving Friday and the weekend for special events which works well. We also have occasional day time bookings which during the last year included training sessions for a care company and a keep fit class.

The committee decided to spend some of the grant money on upgrading the electrics and installing a fire alarm at the Hall. Until an inspection we had not realised how much was required. However, it was felt essential the work should all be done and it was carried out by a company from a neighbouring community.

We eventually held our AGM in August when I was formally elected as the chair. Our long serving secretary and treasurer agreed to continue in their roles but unfortunately we lost two committee members due to no going concerns about covid.

In August we celebrated a return to a slightly more normal way of life with a Garden Party. We were fortunate with the weather and all attending were provided with a free cream tea.

September saw the return of our very popular Harvest Supper and in October we held a "Not so Big Breakfast". Numbers at both events were restricted to keep everyone safe.

The Hall remains in good order but there are ongoing issues with a damp problem from a flat roof. Advice has been sought from a couple of builders but at present we have not been able to actually find anyone to take on the work.

We also had a problem with the water supply to the Hall with the water tasting very unpleasant. We had visits from almost every section of South West water, each suggesting different reasons for the problem and possible solutions. After unsuccessful attempts by SW water to rectify the problem we decided to fit a filter to the supply. This has somewhat reduced the pressure but we now have pleasant tasting water!

At the yearend our bank balance stood at £21,858 with an operating surplus for the year of just over £6,000. We have an excellent, enthusiastic committee who look after the Hall and provide a varied programme of events for our community. Sadly none of us are getting any younger and despite appeals in the Local Rag we have been unable to attract any new members. We will all continue for as long as we can but hope that that we might attract some new blood in the not too distant future.

c) Local Rag – report read by David Potter

The Rag was affected by the arrival of Covid19 just like everyone else. Local

distribution came to a halt, and it was only available online via the PC website.

We decided not to charge the advertisers for the year 2020. This was based on the fact that we had saved the costs of printing several editions and also because over the years we had built up a reasonably healthy bank balance. We then continued the free period into 2021. However, with the Covid situation beginning to ease we will now be charging again from this year on. We won't be increasing the price of the adverts for the moment.

The number of advertisers remains strong at 16, and even though we have lost one or two they have been replaced by newcomers.

One of our local distributors had to give up, due to work demands, but we have since found two new volunteers to carry on the good work. Thanks go to Jenny Staines and Caroline Lewis for stepping up to the plate.

We will need someone new to take on the role of initial distribution, as Roy Cotton has informed me that he will be moving away from the area in the near future.

Anyone interested in filling this position please do get in touch.

A very big thank you goes to our 8 distributors, they are a vital part of the operation.

Finally, our thanks go to the PC for their support over the years, long may it continue.

5 Other items at discretion of the chairman

a) The Chair thanked Mr.A.Goldstone for his continued work in connection with the website.

There being no further business, the Chair thanked those present for their attendance and closed the meeting at 7.16pm

Signed.....chair.....dated