Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Stourpaine Playing Fields and Village Hall Association

Thursday 27th September 2018

Present:

Committee Members

Peter Jones – Chair John Gardner – Treasurer Julie Dunk – Secretary Cindy Rowley Blue Donnebaer Paul Lamboni

Fran Bromley
Pete Palmer
Jan Palmer
Frank Tomes
Anne Tomes
Felicity Cox
Barbara Thomson
Gillian Drummond
Margaret Norman
Scott Norman
Joanna Gardiner
Lucy Yarwood
Caroline Jones

1.	Welcome	
	The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed everyone. Frank Tomes asked if minutes of the AGM 2017 had been produced. Frank had asked a question about maintenance of the Village Hall at that AGM and wanted it minuted. The Chair explained that he had produced a report of the AGM but would try and produce minutes for it. There had been no secretary in post at the previous AGM.	PJ
	Scott Norman explained that nominations for Committee Members and Trustees should be circulated in advance of the AGM in order to comply with Charity Commission regulations. The Chair apologised and noted that this would be done for next year. No nominations other than from the present committee had been received prior to the meeting.	Committee
2.	Chairman's Report	
	The Chair delivered his report on activities in the previous year:	

It is all too easy to blink and suddenly another year has passed by! The day to day running of the Village Hall and Playing fields, through all of the seasons and the variety of bookings and activities, reflect an active community life, in and around, Stourpaine. Tonight is a good time to reflect on the past 12 months and to draw attention to issues which the committee are in the process of addressing.

Our Treasurer, John, will give you a breakdown of our financial position in his report.

The last year has been another good year and thanks to the support of the committee the overall management and running of the site we have had no major problems and feedback from users continues to speak very highly of our hall and facilities.

Here are a few key points to mention:

The regular bookings have been the life blood of income and we now have a U3A table tennis group who meets here every Tuesday afternoon, along with other diverse groups throughout the week.

Bookings for parties and special occasions (from Christening/naming gatherings, toddlers parties, adult celebrations) have been particularly popular this year.

The tennis club and footballers continue to enjoy the opportunity to play here. It was unfortunate that the prolonged wet winter made the football pitch unplayable for several months so we did suffer a drop in income during that period. AFC Blandford did however win their league and are now playing in the Dorset Senior League this season.

The Village Fete this year was held in such perfect weather conditions and proved to be enjoyed by villagers and visitors. The variety of stalls and activities with wonderful music from Blandford Stour Valley Brass Band helped to create a real fete atmosphere. On top of that the fete raised £3350 net profit: a record for a single event. Well done everyone who contributed to making the day a success. We are now going to have a fete in Stourpaine every other year...so make a note to keep Sunday June 2020 available! (If you want to see the breakdown of the takings from each stall then please see the sheets on the table at the end of this meeting).

For many the use of the hall and facilities just seen to happen, but behind the scene there needs to be a support network. We do need some more people to offer their services in several areas. Ongoing cleaning (even just for a couple of hours a month) would be much appreciated. Help with maintenance, meet and greet, publicity or anything where you have a skill or interest....please let us know. Do sign up at the end of this meeting.

Fund raising and booking income is the main source of income to keep up with our current commitments and to improve our facilities. If you have an idea for a specific event then we would encourage you to try to make it happen. This is your hall so please use it as much as you can.

The committee regularly discuss fundraising, improvements such as sound/curtains/blackouts/ carparking issues/safety. Please do help us with constructive comments and ideas. Under a.o.b. at the end of this meeting the committee would like to open a short discussion of some ideas.

Many will know that the Grace Upward's Under 12's Play Ground on Bottom Road is now owned by this charity and the Parish Council have a lease arrangement to keep the area equipped and maintained, along with the play area here by the Hall. We appreciate the work done by the Parish Council in supporting the upkeep of these play areas.

Although this report covers up to the end of July 2018 I must make a special 'thank you' to the craft group who have presented the hall with this beautiful hand crafted wall mural.

Also congratulations to the Gardening Club for organising the very enjoyable Village and Country Show at the beginning of this month.

In conclusion: I would like to thank all those who are on the committee and the supporting team (bookings, cleaning, grass cutting, fund raisers, catering, general help, etc.) who make this site function so well.

Thank you.

Peter (Peter Jones, Chairman) 27 Sept 2018

3. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer showed the Income/Expenditure and Nominal Accounts for 2017/18 on the screen in the hall for everyone to see. These are reproduced at Appendix A.

The Treasurer explained that bookings are slightly down on last year, and that the Village Fete helped increase income this year.

The Treasurer invited questions:

Scott Norman queried the figures for gas. The Chair explained that last year's accounts showed an anomaly due to the transition from a building site to a functioning village hall. We now have experience in what is required to heat the village hall so will be better able to manage gas consumption and therefore reduce cost in the future.

Scott Norman queried how much money we were down due a decline in bookings. The Treasurer explained that it was about £600.00. There had been

some weddings and parties last year that hadn't materialised this year. There is competition in the area from other newly built or refurbished village halls.

Janet Palmer asked if the amount showing for business rates is per year, and the Treasurer clarified that it was. Janet expressed surprise as the rather for the Pavilion were formerly £3,000 per year. The Treasurer explained that we get a discount for being a charity.

The Treasurer explained that we are now showing depreciation for the hall fittings and furniture to allow for future maintenance. Scott Norman queried if the projector, screen music system etc was included in IT equipment, as no depreciation is currently shown for such equipment. The Treasurer will look at this.

JG

Pete Palmer queried what type of bookings have gone down. Felicity Cox expressed surprise as she has been very busy this year. The Treasurer explained that it seemed to be party bookings that had decreased, possibly due to the weather. The Chair explained that the reorganisation of the Dorset counties may also have had an impact as there have been fewer bookings from North Dorset Council. Of positive note, however, is that Charlton Marshall table tennis club are using the hall every Monday whilst their new hall is being built, and that the U3A also have regular table tennis bookings.

The Treasurer informed the meeting that Julie Dunk had undertaken a survey of fees at other local village halls, and that we compare favourably with most. There may be some room to increase the cost of bookings for parties, but as such bookings have decreased it was not felt that this would be beneficial.

Lucy Yarwood asked about black out blinds so that a film club could be held at the Village Hall. It was felt that the projection equipment wasn't suitable for screening films due to the ratio that it outputs at, and that the sound quality would also be an issue.

The Treasurer stated that the budget for this year would be about £3k down due to there being plans to hold a village fete every two years instead of each year. An increase from the Blandford Football Club had been negotiated, and discussions are currently being held with the Tennis Club. The Treasurer pointed out that extra fundraising ideas would be welcomed to help make up for the lack of income from a fete.

Janet Palmer queried why the fete would only be held every other year if we would be £3k down. The Chair explained that with so many events in the village it is difficult to find resources to organise them all, and felt that holding the fete every two years would allow resources to be used more effectively. Caroline Jones stated that if anybody else would like to step forward to organise a fete on an annual basis the Committee would be pleased to support them.

Joanna Gardiner stated that having both a Church fete and a village fete was too much. The Chair explained that the Church would hold an event each year.

Felicity Cox suggested having an article in the Parish Magazine requesting volunteers to help with planning and executing an annual village fete. Blue Donnebaer queried if we can afford not to have an annual fete, bearing in mind how much it brings in. If there isn't a fete, other fundraising will be required to make up the shortfall in income, but that will require input from people in the village. We can't go on hoping that more bookings will turn up, and we need support and help to put events on.

Janet Palmer stated that we need to join up with others in the parish to discuss the timings and types of events being proposed, and possibly join together in some. She suggested that the Chairman of the Parish Council, Scott Norman, may be able to assist with this. Scott stated that, looking externally, people were not always sure who was responsible for each event. Fran Bromley explained that the church are currently looking at their fundraising activities, but didn't know if there would be a church fete next year.

Scott Norman stated that a formal meeting was required, and that the Chair should write to the PCC and to the Chair of the Gardening Club to request such a meeting.

ΡJ

Pete Palmer stated that he was amazed at how many people had attended the Village Show and Country Fayre, which was held for the first time this year as a trial. The event had raised £300.00 on teas, coffees and cakes. An entry fee of £1.00 had been charged and people had been happy to pay. Margaret Norman stated that she had never been to a fete where you didn't pay to get in. Janet Palmer said that £213.00 had been raised from admission fees to the Country Show. Paul Lamoni explained that he had been on the gate that day and nobody had turned around or refused to pay the entrance fee.

4. Nominations

The Chair informed the meeting that no nominations had been received. In the light of this all current committee members would be willing to stand for reelection, and a committee meeting would be held following the AGM to elect officers.

Felicity Cox proposed the existing committee members en bloc. Fran Bromley seconded the proposal. The majority of attendees voted for the existing committee members to be re-elected.

Scott Norman queried if the committee members are also Trustees, and the Chair confirmed they are.

Barbara Thomson pointed out that minutes and accounts should be circulated prior to the AGM, and that they should be formally proposed and accepted. The Committee apologised for failing to do this and promised that things would improve in future to ensure compliance with the requirements of the Charity

Committee

Commission.

Frank Tomes queried who had audited the accounts. The Treasurer explained that they don't have to be audited, just checked, and that Margaret Williams had checked them.

The Chair explained that there was a position on the Committee for someone from the Parish Council. Scott explained that there had been concern from PC members about the amount of work and responsibilities that might come from such a position, as well as the potential for conflict of interest. Scott agreed to take the suggestion to the Parish Council.

SN

5. Any Other Business

The Chair asked attendees to consider giving input into what the priorities are for spending. It is easy to list potential projects but they all require funding and we don't want to eat into the reserves for future maintenance. Specific events can be held to raise money for projects, such as breakfasts, which area always popular and well attended.

Blue Donnebaer explained an idea for an event that would raise money for the Village Hall at the same time as recognising the work that many people undertake for the village. He proposed holding an Awards Ceremony that would feature several categories, for example Good Neighbour Award, Young Stourpainian etc, and that it might be possible to attract sponsorship for each award from local businesses. It could become an annual event that would raise money and celebrate all that is good about Stourpaine.

Lucy Yarwood asked if this could be combined with an auction of promises. Felicity Cox explained that this was a church initiative.

The Chair explained that a number of events are being considered, and urged people to volunteer. He had placed sheets at the back of the room for people to leave the details on should they wish to get involved. Nobody left their details or volunteered to help.

Scott Norman suggested that a priority would be to put together a fundraising team that could consider not just events but also grants. He suggested that Julie Wigg could be a useful source of information about grants that may be available. The Chair stated that he would contact Julie.

ΡJ

Lucy Yarwood stated that if temporary blackout blinds could be provided, a film club could be started and the money raised could be used for permanent black out blinds. The Chair explained that there are some pieces of black cloth that are used during table tennis evenings and other events where it is necessary to block out the sun. The possibility of a film club can be explored further.

Felicity Cox thanked the Committee members, and especially the Chair who works so hard on behalf of the Village Hall and Playing Fields, and without who we would be sunk.

Barbara Thomson stated that she had had visitors at the weekend and they had expressed how lovely and well kept the hall and playing fields are.

The Chair thanked Felicity and Barbara for their comments. He encouraged people to	
get involved and to help and support the committee so that the Village Hall and Playing	
Fields could continue to be a useful community asset.	
The Chair closed the meeting at 20.37	

Stourpaine Playing Fields & Village Hall Association

Income & Expenditure 2017/18				
Name		Debit	Credit	-
Bank Current Account (HSBC)		17,468.84	-	-
Bank Deposit Account (HSBC)Depreciation	Fund	3,690.86	-	
NW Account		1,126.34	-	
Fund	ds on Hand	22,286.04		
Bookings		_	9,722.15	
Private Donations		-	16.37	
Institutional Donations		-	6.65	
Bank Interest Received		-	2.27	
Tennis Club		-	730.00	
Fundraising Events		-	1,285.25	
AFC Blandford		-	700.00	
Gifts		-	7.00	
Fete Etc.		-	3,747.37	
	Income	-	16,217.06	14,111.83
Fundraising Expenses		498.16	_	
Water Rates & Waste Disposal		1,718.24	_	
Business Rates		550.08	_	
Premises Insurance		1,265.83	_	
Electricity		986.00	_	
Gas		2,321.05	-	
Heating Maintenance		384.00	_	
Indemnity Insurance		170.00	-	
TV, PRS & Drinks Licences		217.00	-	
Internet		353.00	-	
Repairs and Renewals		692.78	-	
Cleaning Materials		133.36	-	
Fire Extinguishers		100.80	-	
Ground Maintenance & Sports Equipment		666.51	-	
Booking Administration		820.00	-	
	Expenses_	10,876.81		10,149.38
		PROFIT	5,340.25	3,962.45

Nominal Accounts 2017/18

	Nominal Accounts 2017/18		- "
N/C	Name	Debit	Credit
	Ground Equipment	4,200.00	-
0011	Ground Equipment Depreciation	-	-
0020	Kitchen Equipment	6,285.00	-
0021	Kitchen Equipment Depreciation	-	885.00
0030	IT Equipment	-	-
0031	IT Equipment Depreciation	-	-
0040	Hall Fittings & Equipment	8,929.67	-
0041	Hall fittings & furniture depreciation	-	1,409.20
1200	Bank Current Account (HSBC)	17,468.84	-
1210	Bank Deposit Account (HSBC)	3,690.86	-
1230	NW Account	1,126.34	-
4000	Bookings	-	9,722.15
4001	Private Donations	-	16.37
4002	Institutional Donations	_	6.65
4003	Bank Interest Received	-	2.27
4005	Tennis Club	_	730.00
4006	Fundraising Events	_	1,285.25
4007	AFC Blandford	_	700.00
4300	Gifts	_	7.00
4500	Fete Etc.	_	3,747.37
6000	Fundraising Expenses	498.16	-
7002	Water Rates & Waste Disposal	1,718.24	-
7003	Business Rates	550.08	-
7104	Premises Insurance	1,265.83	-
7105	Electricity	986.00	-
7106	Gas	2,321.05	-
7108	Heating Maintenance	384.00	-
7109	Indemnity Insurance	170.00	-
7350	TV, PRS & Drinks Licences	217.00	_
7351	Internet	353.00	_
7500	Repairs and Renewals	692.78	-
7501	Cleaning Materials	133.36	_
	Fire Extinguishers	100.80	-
	Ground Maintenance & Sports Equipment	666.51	_
	Booking Administration	820.00	-