

Ferring Village Hall Management Committee
Minutes of the 2019 Annual General Meeting
Saturday 30th March 2019 at 10:00 am

Present:

Tim Baldwin - Chairman, Clyde Fordyce - Secretary, Betty McCann - Treasurer, Richard Sims, Carole Fordyce, Mark Turner, Steven Horne, Peter Phillips, Moira Blackburn, Nigel Shearman, Jeannette O'Sullivan, Steven Horne, Graham Bachelor, Toni Rose

Public Attendees:

Paul Webster, Alan Fryar, Fulvio Zottola, Janice Moth, John Franklin, Steven Sayer, Sue Rayner, Paul Rayner, Pat Attree, Ruth Sims, Peter Sims, Gordon Welch, Alison Turner

Apologies:

Lynda Philips, Hilary Thomas, Colin Barrett, Lillian Holdsworth

Minutes of the 2018 AGM:

Were read and agreed – proposed by Alan Fryar, seconded by Toni Rose

Matters arising

None

Chairman's Report

Since our last AGM, held on the 10th March 2018, the Ferring Village Hall Committee has had a very busy year.

Over this last year we now have in place a full Trustee Committee of 17 members, plus Paul Webster, our former chair-person, a co-opted advisor to the existing Trustees.

The Committee has agreed to specialise its duties into areas of finance, maintenance, health and safety, and publicity and advertising, and to these ends each group has been formed to advance and control each topic. This has enabled the main Committee to proceed with their regular meetings in an efficient and speedy nature.

During the last year our site has been maintained to an excellent standard, and there are moves in place to repair or replace the main halls windows, ceiling insulations, outside roof tiling and internal flooring. These jobs cannot all be undertaken at the same time, but will be prioritised over the coming months under the control of our maintenance and finance groups.

We have also been involved in negotiations with the Ferring Parish Council in their on-going actions with the current neighbourhood plan as now agreed with Arun District Council, specifically relating to the suggested sale of the village hall land as left to the village by Mrs. Henty.

During this last year it has been established that our parish council have accepted a West Sussex County Council offer to purchase the Glebelands Hall site for £200,000 with conditions.

One of our continuous responses to the parish council on this action is a 100% ownership of freehold of land - as we have with our site. Subsequent information from the parish council revealed no such undertaking with this purchase would be forthcoming. We also requested from our parish council, on several occasions, information on their business case for this proposed new build, together with confirmed periodic reviews on the project, but none were forthcoming. The Trustees therefore formed the opinion that the economic viability* of the neighbourhood plan was questionable, with the risks to our village hall significant.

As a result of these facts, your Committee unanimously agreed to advise the parish council of our withdrawal, at this time, from current future plans relating to the Glebelands project.

We recently held an open-day to villagers and hall users, as part of the "West Sussex Village Hall" week held under the umbrella of Action in Rural Sussex (AIRS) which created interest in our existence and activities. Only one attendee wished to "knock the hall down and start again", whilst the vast majority of returned questionnaires expressed complementary comments on the site, with some offering comments that are being enacted in the near future.

Finally, I would like to place on record my sincere thanks to all the Trustees for their hard work throughout the year, with special thanks to Mark Turner for his excellent work this year on current Data Protection legislation which, now enacted by the Committee, has brought the Hall into the 21st Century, and to Roy Holder who has now retired from our Committee, for all his many years of service whether it was on behalf of FADS matters, or other matters. We wish him a very happy retirement.

Timothy Baldwin
Chairman – Ferring Village Hall

Question to the Chair

Janice Moth - Will the Village Hall Branding remain the same.
Chair – Yes

Treasurer's Report

Betty McCann gave her report - Income remains the same as last year, but was offset by increased outgoings mainly on increased electrical maintenance. We have changed the auditor in 2018, but we are currently waiting for a quote for this year before we agree to use them again. This matter will be handled by the Finance Committee. Proposed by Pat Attree and seconded by Paul Webster. Full copy of report with audited accounts attached to minutes.

Questions

Stuart Sorter – Why has the fixed assets valuation has gone up?
Treasurer - this has been because of including the valuation of the Village Hall land into the report as recommended by the Auditor.

Bookings Secretary's Report

Given by Jeanette O'Sullivan. There is an updated booking system, that is more efficient and users are encouraged to check the booking website. Bookings are being taken for 2020 and from November 2019 bookings for 2021. Report attached to minutes.

Questions

John Franklin - Are bookings up or down?

Chair - They are roughly the same as previous years.

Janice Moth – When are the quiet times?

Chair - Primarily these are at the weekends

Stuart Salter - What is the booking percentage?

Chair - Currently it is 33% utilised, because there is still little demand for hirings at off peak times e.g. the weekends.

Committee Re-elections

Election of a Chairman - Tim Baldwin – proposed John Franklin seconded Alan Fryer - elected unopposed

Election of Secretary - Clyde Fordyce - proposed John Franklin seconded Paul Webster - elected unopposed

Election of Treasurer - Betty McCann - proposed John Franklin seconded Pat Attree - elected unopposed

Election of other committee members - proposed John Franklin seconded Paul Webster - elected en-bloc unanimous.

AOB

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Gordon Welch – Reported issues with maintenance, sinks in clubroom kitchen not holding water, extractor fan in the Gentleman’s toilet not working. How can issues be reported more efficiently? Plan to publish contact details for Maintenance, Financial and Publicity committees on internal FVH notice board.

Alan Fryar – Latch on the main hall entrance fire door is not working properly. The maintenance committee will investigate and resolve.

John Franklin – Issue with the brightness of the light in the disabled toilet. The maintenance committee will investigate and resolve.

Meeting finished at 10:30

Date of Next Meeting

To be advised.