

Ferring Village Hall
2022 Annual General Meeting
Held on Saturday 21 May 2022 at 9:30 am

Minutes

Present

Peter Phillips (Chairman); Jane Crathern (Secretary); Betty McCann (Treasurer)
Colin Barrett; Simon Cornish; Richard Curtis; Debbie Dilks; Carole Fordyce;
Bernadette Griffin; Andrew Jackson; Rick Sims

Public Attendees

Peter Coe (Ferring Parish Council); Christine Elkins; Roger Elkins (West Sussex CC); Linda Lines (Ferring Gardening Club); Peter Lines (Ferring Gardening Club); Linda Phillips; Valerie Simpson (Ferring Retirement Club)

Apologies

Ruth Arnold (Ferring Parish Council)

Minutes of the 2021 AGM

The minutes of the 2021 AGM were taken as read, duly approved and signed by the Chairman.

Matters arising

There were no matters arising

Chairman's Report

The Chairman reported as follows:

“The last year has been a challenging period, in and out of lockdown, whilst trustees have been considering how we keep the village hall viable and in a position to reopen. We were blessed with a strong team of trustees, who used that period to consider some long-standing issues. Two key items dealt with were the upgrade of the electrics to the main hall and also a detailed fire safety report, both of which involved considerable work and finance but has resulted in the hall being in a safer place and fit for some time into the future.

Aside from those key issues certainly Covid took up some of our time in the early months but as we came out of lockdown we looked at how we can come back stronger and our first hirers liaison get together proved highly successful and was seen by many hirers as a positive step forward to collaborative working and I am sure the relationship will continue.

Over the year we have also taken steps to build our relationship with the Parish Council and the management of the other hall facilities in the village looking to ensure that between us we offer the best we can to all of the village.

During Covid we were able to access a variety of grants and funding, so whilst we lost considerable funds through not being able to open we did manage to keep a positive bank

balance. Through the liaison with our hirers we identified a range of improvements to the hall, some of the monies received helped deliver some of those including the projector in the main hall, the baby changing facilities, improvements to outside lighting etc. We also used some of those funds to help our hirers, we introduced reductions in hire charges, and free sessions for new hirers. Our aim has been to bring the village hall back into the centre of village life. And especially watch out for the Jubilee weekend events.

For the future there are great plans; we have submitted a bid for a grant to help instal solar panels, and the active group of trustees are looking at the larger scale improvements to the hall such as new toilets and insulation to the roof and floors, so watch this space as they take forward these actions.

I am standing down as a trustee as of today, so after my term as chairman I have to say a big thankyou to all the trustees who have committed to the village hall over the last year or so. Some Trustees have left us and I would like to say a thank you to Jeanette O’Sullivan who managed the bookings superbly and then went onto deliver the role of hirer liaison and sparked off the event I mentioned earlier. Colin Barrett, who has been with us a while and has actively been involved in the maintenance side especially. And finally a special thank you to Jane Crathern who as Secretary has carried and guided us all, keeping us on track every step of the way.

A little while back we welcomed Bernie Griffin as Secretary and already she is showing a worthy follow on from Jane and I am sure the trustees are in good hands. And finally as a close a big thank you to all the trustees I haven’t actually named. I know the village hall is in good hands and I wish you all well.”

Peter Phillips

There were no questions.

Accounts and Treasurer’s Report

The Accounts and Treasurer’s report were presented and taken as read. The Treasurer gave an overview of income and expenditure for the financial year to 31 December 2021, as set out on page 12 of the accounts.

There were no questions.

Resignations and Election of Management Committee

Chairman

- Peter Phillips resigned as trustee and Chairman (to take effect from close of meeting)
- Simon Cornish (proposed by Peter Coe and seconded by Valerie Simpson) was elected as trustee and Chairman by majority vote (Andrew Jackson abstaining)

Secretary

- Jane Crathern resigned as trustee and Secretary (to take effect from close of meeting)
- Bernadette Griffin (proposed by Linda Lines and seconded by Valerie Simpson) was elected as trustee and Secretary by unanimous vote

Treasurer

- Betty McCann (proposed by Linda Phillips and seconded by Valerie Simpson) was re-elected as trustee and Treasurer by unanimous vote

Management Committee

- Colin Barrett resigned as trustee
- Richard Curtis, Debbie Dilks, Carole Fordyce, Andrew Jackson and Rick Sims (proposed by Linda Phillips and seconded by Roger Elkins) were re-elected *en bloc* as trustees by unanimous vote

Appointment of Auditors

The trustees agreed to reappoint the current auditors, Independent Examiners Limited, of Bosham, West Sussex, PO18 8NF. It was noted that the audit service would be reviewed in the coming months.

Any other business

- Linda Lines raised the matter of the heating and commented that it had recently been on full when not required. The Chairman explained that new thermostats had been installed, which would enable hirers to adjust for their periods of use. It was also noted that the heating would be turned off at the end of May until autumn.
- Valerie Simpson congratulated the Management Committee on its excellent PR and promotion over the course of the year. Peter Phillips confirmed that special thanks were due to Simon Cornish and Jeanette O'Sullivan for all their hard work in that connection.
- **Votes of thanks**
 - Peter Coe thanked Simon Cornish, Betty McCann and Jeanette O'Sullivan for all their work on the village Jubilee celebrations.
 - Simon Cornish on behalf of the Management Committee thanked Colin Barrett, Jane Crathern and Peter Phillips for their committed service to Ferring Village Hall, which between them amounted to 15 years. Gifts were presented to the three trustees standing down.

Date of Next Meeting

May 2023