

BUCKLAND NEWTON VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at the Village Hall on 12th June 2007 at 8.30 pm

ATTENDANCE

Kate Beaumont [KB], Janet Burnett [JB], Jeremy Collins [JC], Chris Hildred [CH], Ian Scott [IS], Janet Shaw [JS], Sue Sulkin [SS], Joyce Warne [JW]

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Bridget Baker, Nicki Barker, Stephen White and Keith Wright.

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 13TH JUNE 2006

The minutes were approved unanimously and signed by the Chair.

3. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman reported a steady year.

The main decision was to postpone external work on front end of hall, specifically roof, as this did not appear urgent at present (though should not be forgotten!) and to concentrate on internal refurbishments there and all round the hall - see Chris Hildred's report. Fundraising was about to commence for this, which should be a popular cause.

The Chair thanked the Fete Committee for a £500 contribution last year and hoped for a further contribution in the coming year.

During the year blackout blinds had been installed allowing film and slide shows during daylight hours, and Artsreach and Moviola had worked together to provide an event approximately each month though the autumn/winter/spring months. During the year new hire charges had also been introduced, still with Treasurer's discretion and mindful of local needs.

Perhaps the most significant factor for the long-term future of the hall had been that the playgroup was staying - reaching a younger generation early!

Yoga classes had moved from the public to the private sector with no discomfort.

The hall had also been used during the year for important village occasions, including the funerals of two individuals who both contributed much to the development of the hall in earlier times, Roy Davey and Stan Mitchell, and the Chair paid tribute to them, commenting that at such times the hall was an important resource for the village; a public space where the village could come

together.

Health and safety issues had also been embraced more thoroughly thanks to Keith and Stephen's attentions, and more recently Chris' watchful eye and thanks were expressed to all of them. The work had taken its toll on Hall finances and the Committee would need to find a measured approach to this.

The Chair also thanked Sue for keeping the finances in good order, and arranging for an incident free sequence of bookings via the diary and Jeremy for his excellent minutes (and a special mention for the village website which was an excellent advertisement for the hall). The Chair also thanked the whole committee for support of what had become more widely recognised as a fine example of a village hall.

4. **TREASURER'S REPORT**

The Treasurer reported as follows:

The year had been successful as revenue from bookings increased and the Hall had been enjoyed by the village for a variety of functions. The main source of income was from regular classes, clubs and the Playgroup. The main outgoings were cleaning, oil and this year, electrical work. Due to problems inherited from the electrical work done during the refurbishment, it had been necessary to pay an electrical contractor to work with Stephen White to correct these faults and also to replace the fire alarm panel. A saving of £207 on insurance was made by shopping around.

The Hall was used every weekday during term time and several evenings a week as well as weekends for parties, car cleaning etc.

A new large teapot had been purchased this year, together with blackout blinds which would be beneficial for Artsreach and Moviola events.

The Committee aimed to run the Hall out of income but the interest from the CAF account was used for large one-off expenses such as the blinds and a large electrical bill. The CAF account was set up when the Hall became VAT registered to enable a reclaim of the VAT incurred (c. £23,000) on the Hall refurbishment. It is the intention to retain the capital amount and use only the interest as a backstop should the need arise. Included in the CAF account is a sum of £2,000 towards the refurbishment plan for the front area of the Hall. This is made up of £750 from the 2005 Fete which the Committee matched as agreed, and £500 from the 2006 Fete.

By continuing to husband our funds with care and encourage bookings it should be possible to run the Hall efficiently without incurring any debt or the necessity for continuous fundraising to pay our expenses.

The Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2007 were presented and are attached to this report. Acceptance of the Accounts was proposed by Jeremy Collins, seconded by Janet Burnett and approved unanimously.

5. **NOMINATIONS TO THE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE FROM USER ORGANISATIONS**

Nominations were as follows:

Lydden Ladies – Bridget Baker
Parochial Church Council – Jeremy Collins
Parish Council - Nicki Barker
Gardening Club – Joyce Warne
Under Fives – Kate Beaumont
Lunch Club - Janet Burnett
BADS – Chris Hildred

6. **ELECTION OF OTHER MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE**

Ian Scott, Sue Sulkin, Keith Wright and Janet Shaw were proposed 'en bloc' by Joyce Warner, seconded by Janet Shaw and elected unanimously.

7. **HALL IMPROVEMENTS**

A report on Hall Improvements had been tabled by Chris Hildred. Various other minor improvements were also discussed. Chris Hildred was thanked for his work in preparing the report and the matter referred to the new Committee for action.

8. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 9.20 pm.