



**Minutes of Village Hall Management Committee: Annual General Meeting (held on Zoom)**

**Wednesday 23 March 2022 at 7.30pm**

**Present:** Mike Baker (MB) (Chair), Jack Calder (JC), Phil Davies (PD), Mark Kibble (MK), Bernard Novell (BLN), Steve Smith (SS), Roger Wood (RW)

3 members of the public were also present.

Item		Action
1. Welcome	MB welcomed the members of the public to the meeting.	
2. Apologies	Bill Jackson, Bill Norman, Linda Palmer	
3. Minutes of last AGM 2021	The minutes were approved and passed for publication on the GVH website.	BLN
4. Matters arising from last AGM	None.	
5. Chairman's Report for year ending 31.12.21	<p><u>Covid</u></p> <p>In its second year the pandemic continued to have a major effect on the Hall's operations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 05 January – Closed: Lockdown 3</li><li>• 04 March – Open: Step 3 – specific user groups</li><li>• 19 July – Open: step 4 out of lockdown</li><li>• 05 October – Open: No formal restrictions</li><li>• 10 December – Open: Face masks mandatory</li><li>• 27 January – Open: No restrictions</li></ul> <p>Thus the Hall had been open for 38 weeks in the last 52, mostly with restrictions. Cases were rising again, and we continue to recommend face masks and ventilation.</p> <p>Most users had now returned, though some were using hybrid Zoom/face to face meetings. The two Jazz clubs and the album project had been badly hit by the uncertainty caused by covid and the resulting costs, and were no longer functioning. A new Jazz club had been set up at the Community Centre, and it was hoped it would transfer to the Hall. There were an increased number of hires for wedding celebrations and private parties.</p>	

### Maintenance

The floors were retreated in the summer. We were recently advised that the cooker needed replacing, and RW was investigating electric models to replace the existing gas model.

### Improvements

All improvements were still suspended, unless they reduced costs. A Fibre Broadband upgrade was being installed, provided and fully funded by OCC for the next 3 years. It would be operational in April 2022 and provide 100Mbps symmetrical bandwidth. At the end of the 3 years the Hall would consider whether to continue with it.

### Repairs

The Belleme Cockerel had been lowered to the ground in March 2021 to make it safe, and had been repaired and re-installed in March 2022. There had been substantial repairs to the heating. A cracked velux window unit had been replaced.

### GVH Environmental Footprint Project

In October the Hall secured a new fixed price energy contract with SSE, selected because it sourced its energy from renewables as far as possible. At the time energy prices were rising rapidly and the new contract doubled the Hall's energy costs from £2,200 to £4,400 pa. But we were advised that prices were unlikely to fall in the period, and indeed the Ukrainian war had caused them to rise even more, so the fixed price deal looks good value.

Investigations have been started to change from gas convection heating to an electric alternative using a heat recovery and ventilation system along with radiant heating. This would use renewable electricity and also potentially free up floor space in the main hall. These investigations are likely to continue for a few more months before any decision is reached.

### Thanks

MB expressed thanks:

- To the trustees for all their hard work and devotion, and especially to BLN, who is now stepping down;
- To JC for his excellent minutes throughout the year;
- To Bill Norman and Paul Carter for their help and flexibility during this difficult year;
- To Alan Matthews for auditing the accounts;
- To our local councillors for their support;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To all our users for their understanding and support through the pandemic</li> <li>• To the friends of GVH</li> <li>• To our suppliers Colin Sylvester, Harry Denison and Len Craft</li> </ul>	
<p>6. Treasurer's report for year ending 31.12.21</p>	<p>The accounts are available as a separate document. SS reported that:</p> <p><u>Income</u></p> <p>Income was higher than last year - £40,442 compared to £30,332 in 2020. £23,708 of the income was grants from SODC. Bookings were slightly higher at £13,607 in 2021 compared to £12,731 in 2020 but significantly lower than £40,221 in 2019. We also received £2,414 as a rebate for overpayment of water bills in previous years.</p> <p><u>Expenditure</u></p> <p>As with 2020 we kept operational and maintenance expenses to a minimum. Operational spend was £23,898 in 2021 compared to £21,333 in 2020. Maintenance was kept to essential items but we did have one large expense of £6,200 for repairs to the heating system but received an emergency grant of £5,000 towards the costs from SODC.</p> <p><u>Bank Balances</u></p> <p>Despite this difficult year we managed to carry forward a cash surplus of £16,040 and increased cash in the bank from £33,411 at the end of 2020 to £49,455 at the end of 2021. The Hall was therefore in a very strong financial position, which should enable it to resume investing in improvements.</p> <p>MB thanked SS for all his work, and proposed that the accounts be adopted and forwarded to the Charity Commission..</p>	
<p>7. Election of Management Committee officers and members for the coming year</p>	<p>MB listed the trustees in 2021 and their main areas of responsibility.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mike Baker – Chair</li> <li>• Steve Smith - Treasurer</li> <li>• John Barrett – Social media and projects</li> <li>• Phil Davies – Projects</li> <li>• Bill Jackson – Licensing</li> <li>• Linda Palmer – Caretaking</li> <li>• Bryan Urbick – Finance and grants</li> <li>• Mark Kibble – Events &amp; grants</li> <li>• Roger Wood – Project management</li> </ul>	

	<p>BLN was standing down, but would continue to maintain the Hall website and would be happy to provide advice whenever required. All other trustees were willing to continue. We still have two vacancies and continue to look for people to fill them.</p>	
<p>8. Any other business</p>	<p>On behalf of the Arts Society Cornelia Hayes thanked the Trustees for all their efforts, and for helping the Society to successfully run hybrid meetings. The Society looked forward to resuming full face to face on 5 April.</p> <p>On behalf of the History Society Alan Winchcomb also thanked the Trustees. He commended Bill Norman and Paul Carter for being so helpful and efficient.</p> <p>Giles Philips from the Bridge Club asked if firm dates were known when the Hall would be unavailable because of use by the Goring Gap Festival. MB said that the Festival currently had a two week block booking, but Ron Bridle would shortly let him know when the Hall could be made available to other users within that period, so that the bookings diary could be updated.</p> <p>PD mentioned that on 13 March the Goring Gap Players were using the Garden Room, but another user (the Goring Fellowship) turned up for what they said was a regular booking but was not recorded in the bookings diary. MB would look into this. Bookings were sometimes recorded as being for a private meeting, with no details of the hirer, and BLN thought it might be worth reminding Bill Norman this should be done only if there was a strict confidentiality requirement.</p>	<p>MB</p>