

COLTON VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Annual General Meeting 2022

Minutes of the meeting held at the Village Hall on Thursday 27th October at 7.30 pm

1. Members present

John Macmillan (JM) (chairman); Richard Monbiot (RM) (Garden Guild rep); Fiona O'Brien (FO'B) (Booking Officer - elected trustee); Guy Reynolds (GR) (Treasurer - elected trustee). There were three parishioners or representatives of village organisations present: Liz Craddock (History Society); Polly Macmillan and Lynne Richardson (WI).

2. Apologies

Nigel Parry (PC rep trustee).

3. Minutes of previous AGM

No parishioner having asked for a copy of the minutes which had been made available on the village hall's website, they were taken as read and signed by the chairman as a true record.

4. Matters arising

None

5. Trustees annual report of activities

JM explained that the role of the trustees of the village hall was to manage the hall on behalf of the parishioners. The charitable objects required the trustees to provide and maintain the hall. Over the last several years under Richard Monbiot's chairmanship, the trustees had been accumulating a substantial reserve knowing that there were a number of expensive capital projects in the offing for which no grants were available. The year 2021/22 had seen the first of those come to fruition with the complete refurbishment of the car park at a cost of £24,000. During the year the car park lighting had completely failed but delays experienced by the contractors in obtaining new lighting poles had led to the work being postponed to the current financial year. The heating system was also causing problems although was now hopefully back to full working order. Once all of the work had been completed and paid for, JM was hopeful that there would still be a very substantial reserve of around £20,000. The trustees had continued with the operating philosophy they had adopted before covid, namely to make the largest proportion of income from a relatively low number of external bookings enabling them to hire the hall to parishioners and organisations whose events were open to all parishioners, at heavily discounted rates. On Sunday afternoons, the hall was available to parishioners at a rate which only just covered operating costs. The trustees were not publishing the usual figures showing the percentage occupancy rates for external and parish bookings as the figures for 21/22 were still badly skewed by Covid but the aim remained to increase usage of the hall by parishioners as much as possible.

6. To receive the annual report and accounts

These were formally received.

7. Parishioners' feedback and open forum

Liz Craddock said that the History Society were very happy with the way the hall was being run.

8. Election of members

Fiona O'Brien and Guy Reynolds were elected as trustees.

9. Representative members

JM announced that the following were to be representative members of the VHMC having been nominated by village organisations in accordance with the constitution: John Macmillan - Colton Local Nature Reserve; Richard Monbiot - Garden Guild; Nigel Parry (Parish Council) and Lynne Richardson - WI. JM welcomed Lynne as a new trustee and invited her to take up the roll of secretary as he currently occupied that role as well as being chair. Lynne kindly agreed to become secretary

10. The meeting closed at 8.00 p.m.

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Signed

Dated