

Wreningham Village Hall Management Committee Annual General Meeting – 1st November 2023

The meeting opened at 1930 and concluded at 2130 and was attended by:

Committee members: John Knight, Ian Holloway, David Tinsley, Janet Richardson, Andrea Tancred and Jennie Schamp.

Other attendees: Keith O'Neill, Jon Carpenter, Val Keel, Jean Lambourne, Karen Nunn, Pat Tinsley, Sue and Nick Pink, Michael Hill, Cathy and mason Paul, Sue and Mick Ryder.

Apologies: Mary and Dave Loader.

1. Minutes of last AGM (1.11.22)

Minutes read by JK and agreed as a true record.

Proposed by PT and seconded by CP

2. Matters Arising

Thursday night attendance at the W&W is increasing, especially a massive increase on cocktail night; however, Friday night attendance is very low and consideration needs to focus on what might draw people in.

Games night and Fish and Chip night numbers have also dwindled and Friday opening cannot continue if numbers don't improve.

JK invited ideas from the floor of which there were none.

JK mentioned the improvements to the car park and the successful reintroduction of bring and share events while DT spoke about upcoming events.

JK discussed the reopening of discussions about solar panels for the hall.

3. Acting Chairman's Report

Thanks were given to the individual committee members, to M&CP for introducing the Hallmaster Booking system and to M&SR for editing the Mardle and their work on the website with Sue Knight. Heather Bond was welcomed as the new Minutes Secretary and all the volunteers were thanked for their efforts throughout the year.

Bookings are up by 40% with new groups such as the NHS monthly training sessions, the Saturday Makers Fayre and Wymondham table tennis league to mention a few. Hirers tell us we are chosen as Wreningham has the best facilities.

The committee has aimed to ensure the safe and efficient running of the hall which has included full PAT testing of the whole building this year.

The King's Coronation was a key event and thanks were given to the bar staff and Chrissie for their tireless efforts.

A maintenance sub group has been set up as much work still needs to be done with ongoing projects. Thanks to Keith O'Neill, Nick Pink David Tinsley and Allan Bond.

The Chairman ended by saying what a busy and positive year 2023 had been. All committee members were keen to remain on board for the coming year and the chairman welcomed anyone else who wished to join.

Mardle Report

Much has changed with the Mardle this year; Sue and Mick Ryder took over in January, the 250th issue was printed in April/May, printing was agreed to be outsourced from August/September and we now have a digital version for those no longer requiring a hard copy.

We are committed to improving the magazine and exploring options to introduce new digital content and features.

Current and previous copies of the Mardle will be available for view on the new Wreningham Village Hall website.

Sue and Mick have been working with Sue Knight and Barry Jarvis to create the new website which launches this month and will include:

- Hallmaster bookings system and events calendar
- About pages including facilities, hire cost and contacts information
- News pages
- Links to other websites

Special thanks was given to Barry Jarvis for his help and support in developing the website.

4. Treasurer's Report

Overall the outlook is good with a £2793 surplus which includes >£4K electricity rebate.

Bar takings are up - £38K compared to £24K last year.

A big rise in electricity prices points to reopening of solar panels discussions.

5. Questions and Comments from the Floor

VK - why was the polling was done at the pub? This was a snap poll and the hall was booked. The W&W was offered, but declined. The Chairman now understands we could have prioritised the govt elections over the previous booking which will be done in the future.

MH – The parish council would like to see the minutes published on the website and suggested that all previous copies of the Mardle are given to the Norfolk Records Office.

Action: VH committee will consider the request

JL – raised a query whether older villagers without access to the internet would still be able to book the Hall by phone. There is a dedicated booking phone number and this will be in the Mardle alongside Hallmaster information.

MH – explained the relationship between the Parish Council (landlord) and the Village Hall Management Committee (managing and acting for the benefit of the community). The Village Hall is self-funding and has responsibility for the maintenance and repair of the building but as Landlord the Parish Council would like to be informed about changes to the fabric of the building, such as the new kitchen proposals.

VK – suggested that Andre be given a thank you gift for looking after the keys for so long.

6. Invitation to join the Committee

JK, IH, DT, JR, AT and JS all confirmed they were willing to return to the committee for the next year.

Jon Carpenter joins the Committee for 2024.

It was agreed the new committee would meet after the AGM to agree roles and responsibilities going forward.

The Chairman thanked all present for attending.