

CLAVERHAM VILLAGE HALL **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2016**

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 12th October 2016

Present: Toni Bland, Jane Dare, John Dare, Emily Dobbs, Bob Evans, Enid Hawkins, Helen Hicks, Sarah Hook, Ralph James, Mike Payne, Pauline Payne, Graham Smith, Mary Smith, Dave Stanley, Monica Stanley, Barry Straughton, Barry Sullivan, Edgar Watson, Jean Watson, Andrew Yearsley (20)

Apologies: Betty Atwell, Geoff Bland, Christine Evans

Minutes of previous meeting Minutes of the AGM on 7th October 2015 were approved

Chairman's Report

The chairman welcomed everyone to the AGM and thanked them for coming. We have had a successful year at the hall with the usual May Day and Shakespeare event. Our special thanks go to Brenda Smith, Mary Smith and Jane Dare for helping to organise these events.

Changes to the buildings and grounds this year include the installation of a new path at the entrance and the painting of yellow lines in the car park. The heating in the hall has been replaced with a new system that is more energy efficient. All of these projects have been overseen by Bob Evans and our grateful thanks go to him.

The hall does not currently have a contracted maintenance person. We send our thanks to Graham Smith who has stepped in whenever possible to keep things running smoothly.

We currently have 14 "regular bookings" who hire the hall on a weekly / monthly basis. There has been a dip in bookings between May and Sept 2016 but this is not a significant amount (*data sheet passed round*). It has been felt that we might be able to encourage more people to the bar on Saturday nights by having a monthly free music night and, with the support of the directors, we have The Redhillbillies performing in October, Tex Braithwaite in November and will then take a break over December. If it proves to be successful we will continue this in 2017.

Another favourite that we would like to see return is the Village Skittles event. It has been suggested that this could be held on one night and if anyone would like to come forward and offer to organise this please let yourself known to a committee member. This was once the role of Ralph Ludin and we greatly miss his presence here at the hall and all the help and friendship that he gave to everyone here.

Our grateful thanks go to the "Friday Morning Crew" who do a great job year in year out, and also to the bar volunteers who put themselves out for the sake of others. We still have several shifts that are not filled and would welcome offers of help. Please let yourself known to the directors or a committee member.

Also, a big thank you goes to Andrew Yearsley and Sarah Hook, who work hard behind the scenes ensuring that everything in the hall runs smoothly.

Jean Watson requested that it be minuted that we also give thanks to the volunteers who set up the Country Market each month.

Treasurer's Report

Investments have continued to return just over 3% based on the historic cost which is greater than any interest rate we could achieve in the market. However, the market valuation of the investments has

fallen by 4.8% this year compared to a 4.6% increase last year.

The solar panels generated a 4.4% return based on the cost which is down from 8.9% last year. (*Mary Smith suggested that we check the height of the surrounding trees and Bob Evans suggested that we check if they need cleaning*). The average return since we installed the panels is 6.1% which means they will take around another 12 years to pay back the original cost.

We have changed our cash investments to make sure that we remain under the compensation scheme limit with each institution and to ensure that we obtain the best possible interest rates. Our longest term deposit is 120 days' notice and from a review of the market recently there isn't any real benefit in tying funds up for a longer period of time.

The accounts show a surplus of C£1700 this year compared to deficit of C£7400 last year. The change is mainly due to the extra £10k donation from CVE.

CVE continue to make substantial donations, however turnover and profit for the year ended 31 August 2016 are down on previous periods. We therefore expect lower donations from them in the current year.

If the CVE donations, depreciation and gain/loss on investment income are removed from the accounts the Hall itself would have made a surplus of £2500 this year. That however still includes £10,800 of rental income from CVE.

The committee sometimes here comments about the level of cash reserves held by the Hall and question why we need to hold those funds. The Hall had a replacement valuation of C£1.5m last year, we therefore need to have sufficient funds in the future to replace / maintain a substantial proportion of that value to ensure that the hall does not fall into major disrepair. If we squander these funds now there won't be anything left for future generations to maintain this excellent facility.

There are copies of the accounts summary around with some explanations of key variations and I also have a copy of the statutory accounts should anyone be interested. If anyone has any questions please let me know.

Bob Evans voiced his thanks to Andrew Yearsley for keeping the accounts in good order.

Any Other Business

No matters arising.

Election of Officers

The following persons were elected having been nominated prior to the meeting;

- Chairperson - John Williams
- Treasurer - Andrew Yearsley
- Secretary - Bob Evans

Committee Members

- John Dare
- Helen Hicks
- Emily Dobbs
- Dan Durie
- Deidre Brunton
- Natasha Passell – Clavertots representative

There being no further business the meeting was declared closed