

BUCKLAND NEWTON VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at the Village Hall on 2nd July 2008 at 8.00 pm

ATTENDANCE

Nicki Barker [NB], Kate Beaumont [KB], Jeremy Collins [JC], Chris Hildred [CH], Jan Marpole [JM], Trevor Marpole [TM], Ian Scott [IS] (Chair), Janet Shaw [JS], Sue Sulkin [SS], Keith Wright [KW]

Richard Bonnie, Gill Southam, Brian Wells.

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Bridget Baker [BB] and Janet Burnett [JB].

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 12TH JUNE 2007

The minutes were read out by the Minute Secretary. Approval of the Minutes was proposed by Chris Hildred, seconded by Kate Beaumont and agreed unanimously by those at that meeting and signed by the Chair.

3. CHAIR'S REPORT

The Chairman opened his report by thanking Joyce Warne who had been a long term member of the Committee but had resigned during the year. The Chair also thanked Janet Burnett who was resigning as representative of the Lunch Club. He extended a welcome to Jan and Trevor Marpole who had been co-opted onto the Committee at the April Committee meeting.

A steady year had seen a new Gym Club on Saturday mornings and WeightWatchers meetings. Moviola had regrettably withdrawn from using Buckland Newton Village Hall but Andrew Stone was keen to carry on and it was hoped suitable arrangements could be made.

Thanks were extended to Chris Hildred (for planning and execution) and Vic Miles for assistance in the refurbishment of the front area of the Hall, including toilets and cloakroom/bar area. The Hall had also benefited from two working party days (including one in April when snow fell). Stunning food had been provided and plans were in hand for further working parties in the coming year.

Sue Sulkin was thanked for her unstinting work in maintaining both the bookings diary and the accounts. The Chair noted that the VAT refund received after the Village Hall had been refurbished was maintained so far as possible as capital, with the interest being used to offset the VAT charges to local users which would otherwise have meant raised hiring charges.

The Chair reported that 2007 would be his last year as Chair and

thanked all those who had contributed as a team to running the Village Hall. It had been an enjoyable time, marked by the receipt of the Lottery Grant to refurbish the Hall and the Chair paid tribute to the work done by Nicki Barker in obtaining this grant. He was looking forward to remaining on the Committee, but under a new Chair. He believed that for both scale and function, Buckland Newton Village Hall remained one of the best.

4. TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer reported as follows:

HSBC Account: £705.83

CAF Account: £25,186.04 (paying 4.95% gross)

HSBC provide free banking but there without an overdraft facility and automatic transfers between accounts had been stopped.

There was now only one working bank account in order to avoid future charges. £100 refund of charges had been negotiated which would show in the following year's accounts.

It would be necessary to increase hire charges in the coming year due to very large increase in energy costs; £800 had been paid for oil following the financial year-end. In the past, the Playgroup charges had been subsidised (use by the Playgroup had been a major factor in obtaining the Lottery Grant). The Treasurer believed that an increase of £1.50 per session for the Playgroup and £2.00 per session for Toddlers would be reasonable. The increases for other groups would need to be discussed by the incoming Committee.

The major overspend in the year had been on fencing around the oil tank, but this could be regarded as a once-off cost. The main income has been from Yoga classes and Parties, but it would be necessary to advertise, especially for holiday period bookings and commercial users in order to break even in future. It was hoped that a contribution from the Fete Committee would be forthcoming to help with the cost of refinishing the main Hall floor.

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 Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2008 were presented and are attached to this report. A query about the Gardening Costs was raised and the Treasurer noted that this covered the period from April to November for regular maintenance, for which a commercial rate had to be paid due to the amount of work involved and the fact that garden refuse had to be removed from

the site. Acceptance of the Accounts was proposed by Nicki Barker, seconded by Keith Wright and approved unanimously.

The Treasurer was thanked for her efforts.

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

Nominations were as follows:

Lydden Ladies – Janet Shaw
Parochial Church Council – Jeremy Collins
Parish Council - Nicki Barker
Gardening Club – Jan Marpole
Under Fives – Louise Trowbridge
Lunch Club - Gill Nell
BADs – Chris Hildred

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

Trevor Marpole, Ian Scott, Sue Sulkin, Keith Wright and Brian Wells were proposed 'en bloc' by Richard Bonnie, seconded by Kate Beaumont and elected unanimously.

7. **NEWS AND VIEWS**

It was suggested by Richard Bonnie that an A-board be made or purchased to allow events to be advertised outside the Village Hall. He also asked whether the Bookings Diary could be posted on the Village Website. Sue Sulkin and Jeremy Collins agreed to look into this.

8. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 8.45 pm.