

Minutes of the Upper Deverills Village Hall Annual General Meeting and Management Committee Meeting Held on Wednesday 21 February 2024 at the Village Hall

Present

Caroline Davies, Gillian Flint, Ted Flint (chair), John Lea, Judy McCulloch, Peter Roberts, Paul Spinks, Claire Watts, and Tim Watts.

Apologies

Eve and Kevin McBride sent their apologies.

Annual General Meeting: Financial Report

The net value of the fund at the end of each of the past five years has been as follows:

2019	£11,102
2020	£13,101
2021	£29,453
2022	£32,627
2023	£33,042

The net increase from 2022 was £784.

The largest elements of recurring income are approximately as follows:

Hall hire	£1,900
Pub nights	£1,500
UDPC Grant	£1,100
Fete	£900
Craft fair	£600

It was noted that we are now receiving some income from the investment of our reserve: £350 over the past year.

The largest elements of recurring expenditure are as follows:

Maintenance	£3,000
Electricity	£800
Cleaning	£700
Insurance	£550
Internet	£400
Licences	£300
Water	£100

We were successful in our application to the Parish Council for a grant of £1199.99. The grant was awarded to enable the Hall to purchase the following: indoor tables - two each of Gopak 6' and 3' tables; folding chairs: six CBG 2700 comfort chairs; digital projector: EPSON CO-W01.

We agreed that we should make the limits of the hall's insurance clear to hirers. In particular we should point out that the cricket pitch is not under the Hall's control and is not covered by the Hall's insurance (unless for activities such as the Fete that are sponsored and organized by the Committee and notified to the insurers in advance).

Paul offered to undertake the training and certification to become a licensee, which will reduce the effort and outlay associated with obtaining temporary events notices.

We agreed to increase the price of £3 drinks to £3.50 and the price of meals from £4 to £4.50. We decided to retain a price of £20 per session for Hall hire, but to change the price for a whole day's hire to £50.

Chairs and tables will only be loaned to Upper Deverills residents, in exchange for a donation to Hall funds.

It was agreed that we should change the combination of the key safe more frequently.

Annual General Meeting: 2024 Committee

The following committee members were proposed and adopted: Alison Benge, Caroline Davies, Gillian Flint, Ted Flint (Chair), John Lea, Richard Joy, Eve McBride, Kevin McBride (Treasurer), Judy McCulloch, Peter Roberts, Paul Spinks, Claire Watts and Tim Watts.

Helen Bull has retired from the Committee. Ted will write to thank Helen for her contribution.

Annual General Meeting: 2024 Programme

Remaining winter events

February

- Friday 23 February 2024: February Pub Night
Licence and bar Paul. Chilli and dhal - Gillian. Potatoes - Caroline.

Spring events

March

- Tuesday 12 March: Wessex Rivers Trust "Revamp your Tank".
No refreshments. Mark Lowe sponsoring.

- Thursday 14 March Star Gazing or (if cloudy) a talk
Steve Tonkin has been booked by Ted. He will bring some helpers. 19:00 doors open for a 19:30 start. No refreshments.
- Friday 29 March (Good Friday) Pub Night
Licence Caroline. Tim and Claire to receive or pick up the beer and set up bar. Chilli and vegetarian alternative - to be determined (Flints and Paul are away until evening). Potatoes Caroline.
- Saturday 30 March: (Easter Saturday) Easter Egg Hunt 11am.
Lisa and Sophie to organize TBC, if not then John and Pam will cover.

April

- Friday 20 April: Inter-village quiz
Claire lead organizer for Upper Deverills. Gillian will do the food.
- Friday 26 April: Pub Night
Licence Caroline. Bar Paul. Food dependent on weather.
- Saturday 27 April: Duck Race, Family Picnic and Barbecue.
Selling Ducks Gillian plus one. Start Paul. River Paul plus one. Finish Phil Davies plus one. Barbecue Ted. Prizes Gillian. Winners Certificates Ted. Straw bales Ted to ask Richard Stratton.

May

- No spring feast
- Friday 31 May Pub Night and barbecue.

Summer events

June

- Thursday 6 June VE Day 80th Anniversary
Ted will ask Richard Stratton if he will support a beacon lighting at 9:15 as part of the national celebration. He will speak to Crispian Beattie, Julian Wiltshire and David Scales to see whether they would be interested in setting up a display of relevant historical material in the Hall. We will not provide food or drink but will encourage people to bring picnics. We might provide a fire pit and lanterns.
- Friday 28 June: Pub Night and barbecue and Family Sports Evening

July

- Saturday 20 July: Summer Show, Fete and Dog Show
Ted will ask Crispian and Bridget if they are content to run the Dog Show again.
- Friday 26 July: Pub Night and barbecue

August

- Friday 30 August: Pub Night and barbecue

Autumn events

September

- Thursday 12 September: Talk
- Friday 27 September: Pub Night

October

- Saturday 19 October 20:00: Autumn Feast
- Friday 25 October: Pub Night

November

- Sunday 10 November: Remembrance Sunday Curry Lunch
Gillian and Ted will be away for the Curry Lunch
- Friday 15 November: Quiz
- Friday 29 November: Pub Night

Winter events

December

- Saturday 7 December: Christmas Craft Fair
- Saturday 21 December: Children's Christmas Party
- Sunday 22 December: Christmas Carol Service

Governance

Ted has spoken to Sue Pritchett at Wilsons solicitors who say that they have looked for copies of the Hall's deeds and conveyances but cannot find them. She helpfully advised on the process for registering land in the case of lost deeds, for which we need to furnish copies of any documents that support our case for ownership, together with signed statements of truth from parties such as David Stratton. We will also need to furnish a 1:1250 plan which should also show the north direction.

When we have completed the registration then we will undertake the process of converting the Hall trust into a Charitable Incorporated Organization. We will also vest ownership of the Hall in the Official Custodian of Charities.

Cleaning and maintenance

John will organize a maintenance day when the weather is better. John has received a quote to cut the trees back to a metre away from the Hall at a cost of some £500. We agreed to go ahead with this. The cost of sorting out the sycamore whose branch overhangs the Hall would be £1600. We decided to speak to the Parish Council to see whether they might pay some or all of this.

John has received a quote of £120 to repair the door handle and realign the door. It was decided to do this rather than to buy a new door, which would be much more expensive.

Bookings

Current recurring bookings are the Art Group, Pilates and the Coffee and Craft afternoons.

Any other business

It was decided to reform the Future Village Hall working group with a view to completing our research and planning this year in order to be ready to launch a project in 2025. The group will include Tim, John, Peter, Pam Lea and Ted.

Date of the next meeting

The next Committee meeting will take place at the Village Hall at seven o'clock on Wednesday 22 May.