

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting
Held at 7.30pm on February 10th 2016
In The Annexe**

Present: Andy Morgan (Chairman), Gail Allen (Secretary), Alan Purchase (Treasurer), Pat Wood, John Jevans (Sports), Val Jevans (Booking Officer), John Mahood, Jill Clarke (MAD),

Apologies for Absence: Andrew Hedges (KM)

Members of the public attending: Pat Barlow (KATS), Duncan Pope (CC), Tony Lyle (MVH Wood Rep), Jonathan Towne, Tracey Towne, John Yeoman (PC), Geoff Allen, Gill Boyce (PC, All Saints, WI), Ann Kendall (PC)

Apologies from Members of the Public: Judy Pearce (District Councillor), Hayley Rutherford (SVRA), Andy Thomas (K & K), Sue Higgs (WI)

1. The Minutes of last year's AGM were circulated, agreed (with the exception of the entry regarding the Police House in Collaton Road to be amended to Salcombe Road) as a true record and signed by the Chairman. **Proposed: Geoff Allen, Seconded: Tony Lyle**

2. Reports

Chairman's Report – Andy Morgan

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending the AGM. 2015 had been a challenging year with the Hall now 40 years old and needing much attention to make it fit for purpose for the 21st century. The achievements of the committee will be covered by the reports following and the Chairman is proud of what has been done in ensuring that the Village Hall is a usable and very adaptable facility. The Committee has pulled together to reach the targets decided on as priorities at the beginning of the year. The many needs have to be prioritised with the criteria based on necessity rather than 'nice to have' or what will generate more business. A new heating system is needed and the floor needs attention - all actions which will leave little time or money for other issues. In the meantime, the running of the Hall continues in the background.

The Chairman expressed his thanks to the Parish Council for their tremendous help and co-operation this year. It is greatly appreciated. He also thanked the present Committee for their hard work and perseverance throughout the last year and hoped to work with them in 2016 to carry on the good work to ensure the Hall becomes the envy of other villages.

Treasurer's Report – Alan Purchase

The Annual Accounts for 2015 have been audited and signed off.

Overall income was down £2,000 on the year although Hall hire, including weddings, was up by £1,800. The main difference in income was the cancellation of Bonfire Night where the expenses were incurred but anticipated income of £3,800 was not received. Direct purchases were down £4,300 due to the previous year's purchase of the PA system and chairs. Direct expenses were virtually the same. Overheads were up by £500 but this included a figure of £1,635 for tree maintenance. The major reduction was £900 on the water rates because in 2014 we were catching up on the budget account and water use is now being better managed. The overall effect is that income minus expenditure was up by £1,500 to an annual figure of £4,200. This has been added to reserves.

Geoff Allen asked if major purchases are written off at the time of purchase and thus no depreciation allowed for. The Treasurer confirmed this is the case.

Secretary's Report – Gail Allen

Another busy year with the main project being the fantastic new roof. Without the support of the Parish Council this would not have been achieved. The funding of £30k from South Hams District Council's Community Project Re-Investment Fund and £3k from Rufus Gilbert's Locality Fund was the means for this roof being afforded. Savings on the project costs were made by allowing the roofing contractors to use the Hall facilities and also for the defunct roofing battens to be loaded onto the bonfire site for burning by volunteers. This latter point saved a considerable amount of money in skip hire. At one stage the area under the eaves in the upstairs store had to be cleared out. A huge amount of detritus which had been collected over the years, had remained in the eaves, forgotten. A set of coconut shy stakes and balls were found which, Simon Wood cleaned up and painted ready to be used for the first time in many years at our Fete in the Summer!

The roof has a 15 year Redland Guarantee and has been well installed to specification. During the build, Redland identified a need for further ventilation to the roof which then necessitated the replacement of the guttering to a more substantial size than the original and, at the same time, industrial downpipes were installed to match. An investigation of the soakaways in the Hall was undertaken following which Tony Lyle improved the gratings at the base of the downpipes to ensure the removal of surface water from the pedestrian access to the Hall. Whilst the scaffolding was in place, the whole Hall was pressure washed. A gentleman in yellow waterproofs could be seen performing this task on numerous occasions – this was John Yeoman aided by Geoff Allen, John Jevans and John Mahood. It has made a great difference to the appearance of the outside of the Hall. Also, whilst the scaffolding was in place, the soffits were painted by Dave Rundle with some remedial work prior to that by Geoff Allen.

The Lease with Wales & West Utilities for the Gas Governor Cabinet (situated on the car park) includes a clause for the hedge alongside the Salcombe Road to be cut annually – thus improving the appearance on this side of MVH land.

The Table Tennis Table which had been stored in the Annexe but not used since the disbanding of the Youth Club, was sold (to a youth group in Plymouth). The money raised was given to the Baptist Church Youth Club for their funds. (They were unable to accommodate another table themselves.) The Climbing Bars and Gym Horse in the Hall were no longer used by the School and, after consultation with them, they organised a home for the Horse and the Bars were removed for collection by a scrap dealer.

There is a new sign on the Tennis Court which should enable users to locate a key more easily. The annual subscription for the courts proved to be very successful last year and hopefully will be the same again in 2016.

The metal grid outside the Hall Car Park Fire Escape doors has been replaced by one made by Malborough Forge (organised by Tony Lyle).

Another successful Fete Day in June made £1,700 profit. Reasonable weather always makes a difference and it was a real village event. In 2016 there is to be the Scarecrow Trail (28 – 30th May) with the theme Royalty and Rulers.

A waterproof poster in the outside noticeboard gives details of the Hall Online Calendar. This Calendar is well used and gives hirers the chance to review possible dates before contacting the Booking Officer.

A Bingo session held in August by Pat Wood produced a profit of £563 – a great contribution to Hall Funds with the sessions always well supported.

In July, a replacement 4x4 vehicle for the gang mowers was purchased. This was sourced with the help of Colin Moss of Waterside Garage.

The 22 old Conifers along the boundary of the Hall and Collaton Road bank were removed by Andrew Marsh in October. In order to keep the costs on the project as low as possible the cut logs were stacked alongside the Hall Slip Road and notices went out that they were free on collection.

Surprisingly these disappeared with great speed. The brush was removed from site to the bonfire area and burned by Geoff Allen. New native trees – Silver Birch, Bird Cherry, Sessile Oak and Whitebeam have now been planted in the gap left by the conifer removal. At the beginning of December a local farmer, Paul Rogers, cut back the brambles on the Collaton Road bank. He did this

completely voluntarily. This has made a huge difference with primroses and daffodils planted on the bank over the years at last visible again. The final improvement to complete in this area is the removal of the old fencing and replacement with new. Quotes have been obtained and once we have sufficient funds to cover the work a new fence will be installed.

Several live Christmas Trees were purchased from Dartmoor Christmas Tree Farm earlier in 2015 and planted in the grass area leading to the pedestrian access to the Collaton Road. It was hoped that these would grow and remove the necessity of having to purchase Christmas Trees each year to sit on the corner of Collaton Road and Salcombe Road. One has been severely burnt by the strong winds experienced over the recent months, the other is more sheltered. The Christmas Tree erected at the beginning of December on the corner of Collaton Road and Salcombe Road did not withstand the tremendous storms we had and several strings of lights were shredded.

Sadly, the planned (and worked for) Bonfire & Firework Night on 5th November had to be cancelled after heavy rain made the ground too wet for the numbers anticipated and the strong winds and further heavy rain forecasted during that day made the set up of the fireworks and lighting of the bonfire impossible and unsafe.

Heavy duty traffic cones were sourced in time for Bonfire Night which Nick and Judith Rowell very kindly donated to the Hall. These are to be used to replace the lightweight plastic posts originally purchased to hold the overflow parking chains and should prove to be more robust in our windy conditions. They can also be used to prevent parking in certain areas.

The usual Fire and Gas Inspections have been carried out and any necessary works affiliated to these have been done with the exception of one of the Hall heaters which requires a new part. We are waiting to hear whether or not this heater can be repaired.

An Energy Report commissioned by us has now been received and the Management Committee needs to discuss its suggestions and proposals, particularly with respect to a new Heating System for the Hall.

So, moving on to 2016:

- A working party for the Old Pavilion to clear out where necessary, organise the inside and ensure it is a stable, watertight structure
- A Village Path linking the Playing Field Entrance from Cumber Close to the Cycle Track thus giving residents a place to walk, with their dogs along the edge of our land. This will be stock fenced. Funding has been obtained by the Parish Council for this task and the job of fine-tuning the details and obtaining quotations for the work involved will commence
- MVH has offered land onto which the Adult Gym Trail Equipment may be sited for the use of the Village
- Heating System to be sourced and installed
- Discussion needs to be undertaken re refurbishment of the Annexe to make it a more user-friendly place in which to hold meetings, gatherings etc and, at the same time, create a link from the Annexe Fire Escape Doors to the Hall Car Park Fire Escape Doors producing a new entrance from the Car Park. This all needs to be considered in conjunction with the needs of various hirers and will, clearly take time
- Pat Wood and Margaret Pearse have requested that the monies raised from their Bingo Sessions should be put towards a Hall Dishwasher. The Management Committee has agreed to install an integrated model although certain rules with regard to its use must be enforced.

Pat Barlow (KATS) asked if the roof had been entirely funded by the SHDC CPRF and Locality Fund. John Yeoman (Parish Council) was able to explain that the Parish Council obtained the funding and donated the roof to the Hall.

Sports Report – John Jevans

The sports facilities continue to be well used by the various sports clubs, including KM, Malborough United FC, Kingsbridge & Kellaton FC and Malborough Moonrakers Cricket Club. This will continue in 2016.

The playing fields were hired out twice in 2015 for Bubble Football to outside parties, which brought in a small amount of additional income. Hiring out the pitches more often is restricted as they are in use most weekends.

The tennis courts are now enjoying the benefit of new nets. Annual membership is still being offered at a cost of £40 per annum plus a £10 key deposit which is believed to be excellent value over the cost of hiring on a one off basis. Six members from last year have renewed their subscriptions with more expected. Weekly tennis coaching for juniors commenced on Sunday mornings which were conducted by an LTA registered tennis coach (Pat Parfitt). These lessons are open to any child up to the age of 14 and cost £1 per hour. The lessons will start again at the end of March or beginning of April depending on weather conditions. With the success of GB's Davis Cup team, good performances by GB's players in the Australian Open it is to be hoped that more use will be made of this opportunity this year. Equipment is provided.

Earlier in the year the possibility of adapting the tennis courts was investigated to include a netball court. The Tennis net posts are however cemented into the ground so no progress could be made on this idea. Like everything else we have to prioritise projects depending on available finance.

With a number of fundraising events over the past year cancelled through lack of support it has not been easy to put money towards improving the facilities both on the fields and in the Hall itself. MVH & PFA will be meeting with KM United FC representatives (as the main user) to discuss ways of improving facilities on the playing fields and would also look to include the other clubs in subsequent discussions. John Jevans thanked Duncan Pope for attending the meeting on behalf of the Cricket Club. Geoff Allen congratulated John Jevans for including the youngsters in sport. Tony Lyle queried where the casual hire income for the tennis courts is posted in the accounts. Alan Purchase confirmed that this income would be included under the Tennis Subscriptions heading. John Yeoman informed the meeting that there is £30k of SHDC 106 money for investment in sport. It is necessary to have a comprehensive plan to apply for funding designated for off-site Sport and Recreation e.g. Adult Gym, Equipment for Tennis, Grandstand, Cricket Nets beside The Old Police House etc. could be possibilities.

Tony Lyle asked for clarification on the rumours regarding access to the New Pavilion. The meeting confirmed that there is no issue now although during a recent redecoration of the Pavilion it was unfortunate that the relevant parties were not given sufficient notice of no access. The Cricket Club will contact KM to discuss access.

Booking Officer Report – Val Jevans

2015 was another good year for The Hall and Annexe and thanks were expressed for the continued and regular support given by MAD, MAD Kids, KATS, Silverhill WI, Salcombe & Malborough Flower Club, Salcombe View Residents Association, the Parish Council, the 2 Badminton Groups and the School. Unfortunately, Mervyn Johns felt he could no longer run the Cubs Group, but again, thanks were expressed for his support over many years.

There were 2 weddings and 2 large parties, plus Monster Mash, Quiz Nights, various small parties and one-off bookings. The surprising and very welcome booking was from the BBC, hiring the car park, while filming 'The Coroner'. They are planning to film another series and hope to use the car park again in 2016. At the end of 2015 there were enquiries for Judo, Ballet and Zumba, all of which are now booked in for regular hire. A table-top sale and a car boot sale were held and as they were both reasonably successful will be held again this year.

Geoff Allen expressed his thanks to Val for a good job, well done and this was confirmed by Jill Clarke.

Wood Report – Tony Lyle

Following the attendance at a conference held by RegenSW a week ago, Tony Lyle noted that it has become less likely for a Solar Array to be installed on the Hall roof because of the reduction in the Feed in Tariff. However with contacts obtained at the conference, there is a possibility this could happen in the future if so required.

There is contact with the School regarding the children's visits to the Wood. They now have a Magic Circle, they undertake litter clearance (making them conscious of discarded litter) and removal of tree

guards. Parents say their children enjoy the experience. There is no progress on the trimming of the antlers on the trees – it may be necessary to thin out some of the trees to allow them to grow. The counting surveys (butterflies etc) are not happening as the children are too young. They have been making paths through the wood. There is nothing happening yet regarding Nest and Bug Boxes. With regard to the Village Path from Cumber Close to the Cycle Track it is important that the path should be maintained and the boundary secured.

A new bench has been installed.

John Jevans told the meeting that he sees the children walking up to the wood in a very orderly fashion, past his house, in their wellies and waterproofs.

3. Open Forum

Geoff Allen asked what is the future of the Cub Garage. All the Cubs have now moved to different groups and Mervyn will need to distribute their equipment to other groups although it is still hoped it could still be possible for the cub group to be re-established. Maintenance on the garage could become an issue although it was re-roofed fairly recently.

Ann Kendall thanked the Committee for allowing the use of the cupboard in the shower room.

Gill Boyce expressed her thanks to the Committee for all that has been done.

At this stage the Chairmanship of the meeting was handed over to John Yeoman.

4. Nominations for Committee

The Committee Members remaining standing for re-election were as follows:

Alan Purchase

Andy Morgan

Gail Allen

John Jevans

Val Jevans

John Mahood

Jill Clarke

Pat Wood

All of the above were elected.

Proposed: Geoff Allen, Seconded: Ann Kendall

Two further nominations:

Jonathan Towne

Tony Lyle (Wood and Solar)

Proposed: John Jevans, Seconded: Val Jevans

Proposed: Gill Boyce, Seconded: John Yeoman

The following were appointed to represent their organisations:

Jill Clarke (MAD)

Duncan Pope (Cricket Club)

The AGM closed at 20.13pm and was followed by a meeting of the new committee.