

Malborough Hall & Playing Fields Association

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting Held at 7.30pm on Wednesday 12th April 2023 In the Annexe of Malborough Village Hall

1.Present: Tim Chandler (TC) Secretary; Victoria Flower (VF); Janice Ginn (JG); Sally Harvey (SH); John Jevans(JJ) Sports Officer; Val Jevans (VJ) Bookings Officer; John Mahood (JM) Treasurer; Andy Morgan (AM) Chairman; Bob Smale (BS) Grounds Officer; Jonathan Towne (JT); Matthew Villaweaver (MW));
Malborough Parish Council represented by John Yeoman(JY); & Ann Kendall (AK);
MADS represented by Jill Clarke(JC);
Geoff Allen
Gail Allen

2.Apologies:

Kevin Broome (KB) representing KM;
Tony Lyle (TL);

3.The Minutes of the last Meeting.

The Minutes of the meeting of 9th March 2022 were approved by the Committee and signed by the Chairman

Proposer; Val Jevans; **Seconder:** John Jevans :

4. Matters Arising from the Minutes:

There were no matters arising which would not be covered under specific reports.

5. Reports

I. Chairman's Report (AM):

In his opening remarks, the Chairman reminded all present that the Association is a charity, run by volunteers by the village and for the village and for areas around. The committee does its best with the limited funds available to maintain and improve the facilities in the Hall, Annexe and in the grounds. The committee had been delighted to welcome two new members during 2022, and greatly appreciated their new ideas and enthusiasm in helping with the activities of the Association.

The Chairman expressed his thanks to all members of the present committee for their hard work and dedication during the year, and he felt confident that the work that had been done during the year will bear fruit in the years ahead.

He extended his thanks and appreciation to Malborough Parish Council for their constant and friendly support and looked forward to working together with the future. Thanks from all extended to Geoff Allen and to Gail Allen for all the work that they put in in helping the committee during the past year.

ii. Treasurer's Report (JM):

Report on MVH&PFA accounts for the financial year (Jan –Dec)2022

The figures for the financial year 2022 showed an improvement as the effects of the coronavirus pandemic wore off. We made an overall profit of £11,103 compared to a loss of £6,003 in the previous year.

Donations received during the year totalled £2,825 of which lockdown grants from the government via South Hams District Council comprised £2,677. Other donations included Seamoor Lotto £88.50 and £56 from the late Queen's Diamond Jubilee events.

Our income was much improved, with Hall and Annexe hire up significantly to £20,748 compared to £5,198 in 2021. This was similar to pre-pandemic receipts from Hall and Annexe hire of £20,581 in 2019. Bonfire Night returned a profit of £2,760; the cost of the fireworks (£1,823) having been incurred by previous years cancelled event. There was no village fête in 2022.

Significant increases in expenditure were (2021 figures in brackets):

Field maintenance £5,540 (£3,268), Electricity £1,759 (£799), Gas £673 (£209), Insurance £1,856 (£1,583), Advertising £459 (£314), and cleaning £1,988 (£1,543).

Significant decreases in expenditure were (2021 figures in brackets):

Hall maintenance £209 (£19,400), water £702 (£12,470), and Wood costs £0 (£1,122).

Our bank balances at the end of December 2022 (2021 in brackets) were:

Current account **£28,494** (£17,343.77)

Deposit account **£13,371** (£13,364.96)

Deposit account **£1,737** (£1,736.35)

Our total capital and reserves were **£43,636** (£37,116.70).

We are now receiving regular bookings the recent easing of covert restrictions. But he seems to be recovering to close to pandemic levels.

John Mahood
Treasurer

Andy Morgan
Chairman

Signed copy of these accounts with support documents submitted to the Charity Commissioners

Appendix 1 : summary accounts for 2022 attached

lii Secretary's Report (TC):

Nothing to report.

Iv Sports (JJ):

Football: we unfortunately lost Salcombe FC as a tenant at the close of last season as the club folded due to lack of players, which meant that they could not be sure of being able to fulfil their fixtures for the 2022/23 season. However, KM Junior Football Club continue to thrive and the football pitches are being used extensively on Saturday and Sunday mornings, and for training during weekday evenings. There has been extensive improvement work undertaken on the pitches during the season, including verti draining, fertilising and the replacement of the goalposts among other things, thanks to funding from the Football Foundation trust acquired by KM. Although we were sorry to lose Salcombe FC this has resulted in the pitches not being overused, which has been the case in previous seasons. We continue to suffer from the lack of adequate parking facilities, but between ourselves and KM, who stagger their kick-off times as much as the league will allow, we do our best to keep disruption to a minimum and will continue to do so until such time as we are able to extend the car park.

Tennis courts: these are still free to use for residents of Malborough and are being reasonably well used both by residents and visitors (who do have to pay for the privilege.

Netball court: this was not used in 2022, but the facilities are still there, including all the equipment needed, so if there is anybody in the village would like to start a netball club please get in touch.

We would like to make the tennis court area an even more multiuse facility with perhaps a basketball court for use by children as and when they fancy. This would mean possibly taking away one tennis court, leaving the basketball court available at all times without the need to lock the court. Unfortunately with the current level of antisocial behaviour and vandalism in the village as a whole, by a small group, this idea will have to go on the backburner for a while, which is shame. Same old story of a small minority spoiling things for the well-behaved majority.

v Booking Officer: (VJ)

First of all, I would like to thank all our regular hirers for their continued support, and welcome all our new hirers.

I am pleased to say, as can be seen from the financial report, that the Hall and Annexe have both been very busy. There been two wedding receptions, and more booked this year, plus a further one in 2024. Children's parties have been very popular, and again more parties, including adults have also been booked for this year. The MAD pantomime KAT's production of 'My Fair Lady' were both excellent, and MAD KIDS are currently rehearsing for Chitty Chitty Bang Bang. The exercise classes are still very popular and well attended. Also, the Horticultural Society have their usual bookings, after two successful shows last year. There been many "one-off" bookings and I expect more throughout this year. We are hoping to replace the curtains this year in the Hall, I would like to thank MAD and KATS for their contribution towards this.

vi Grounds Report (BS)

In April 2022 we signed a contract with Dave Bawden of Cutting Edge Services to provide grass cutting services for MVH.

I hope you will all agree that this change has yielded significant improvements in the grass cutting frequency and standard. Coupled with KM's FA grant for pitch improvements (that Cutting Edge are also undertaking) and, it has to be said KM's flexibility in inclement weather, the field is looking absolutely tiptop and a great many compliments have been received both from footballers and members of the village.

Cutting Edge also completed some works in addition to the grass contract: re-claiming some areas of grass that had become overgrown due to the lack of manoeuvrability of the old gang mowers. The banks at the back of the Play Area and the tennis courts have been cleared, revealing a lovely display of daffodils that have for years been hidden by the brambles.

It is hoped that in partnership with SMASH and based around the advice given by the National Trust we shall develop attractive wildlife sustaining planting on these banks once the brambles and nettles have been eradicated.

The trees around the entrance to the hall are due for pollarding and pruning, and I shall provide quotes for this work at the next committee meeting. The brambles, weeds and saplings on the field side of the lower wall will be cleared and this area will also be used to create a more attractive scene with the use of a mix of wild flowers and some shrubs, all subject to future approval.

My hope is that by adding several areas of attractive wildlife friendly growth we can improve the general appearance of the wall and its grounds, thereby increasing bookings in the future, particularly weddings.

I hope to report that these areas are established and looking resplendent at next year's Annual General Meeting.

vii Wood Report (TL) (given in TL's absence by BS)

The wood in general is in good heart and two local ecologists have complemented the committee on how wildlife friendly the whole area is.

Some of you will have seen the recent work carried out in the wood, clearing some of the trees that were starting to deteriorate through age (Green Willow) or disease (Ash dieback). Teign Trees did a really good thorough job, as did Pitman Trees previously on other parts. There is plenty of woodchip around the area and the community is free to help themselves. No vehicles though I am afraid, so wheelbarrows or sacks only and preferably not across the playing field areas.

We are keeping some areas of bramble as a haven for nesting creatures and as a nectar food source. We will be managing these by cutting the edges to stop them spreading further.

Saplings were planted with the help of the Forest School and have taken well. The school continue to use the wood as a great teaching resource, helping the children to understand and respect nature.

We would like to encourage everyone to visit the wood, it is a community area, planted by the local people. It is full of wildlife and the apples in the orchard area have a wonderful taste

6. Open forum

John Yeoman expressed his sincere thanks and appreciation to Geoff Allen for all his help in the Play Area over the years; as Geoff has now stood down from these duties, volunteers are being sought in the village to take on this important work, but to date no response has been received.

Geoff Allen reported that some local youths have damaged the pedestrian door to the old pavilion and he had that morning affected some repairs, although in his opinion the door is not very robust. The light in the key box in his garden no longer works properly, and he recommended that we should leave it unlit in the hope that the local streetlights will provide adequate lighting. If it is not sufficient, we will look at the matter again.

Janice Ginn raised again the question of dogs not being permitted on the grass within the grounds. She has approached several dog walkers to point out that the error of their ways, and on occasion is met with abuse, even from Malborough villagers who should know better. At the next committee meeting, the question of erecting even more signs around the grounds will be raised in the hope that we can persuade dog walkers to mend their ways. In addition, Salcombe View Residents Association will be asked to send emails to all their residents reminding them that dogs are not allowed. Where properties in Cumber Close are let out to holidaymakers, they should be reminded that they may not bring their dogs into the grounds. This question will be pursued at the next available committee meeting in May.

7. Nominations for committee 2023

The existing committee was re-elected *en bloc*, and 2 additional nominees, Victoria Flower and Matthew Villaweaver, were also elected to the committee. The new committee for 2023/24 comprises, in alphabetical order,

- Tim Chandler
- Victoria Flower
- Janice Ginn
- Sally Harding
- John Jevans
- Val Jevans
- Tony Lyle
- John Mahood
- Andy Morgan
- Bob Smale
- Jonathan Towne
- Matthew Villaweaver
- PLUS (unelected)
- Representative from MAD – Jill Clarke
- Representative from Malborough Parish Council – Ann Kendall

- Representative from Salcombe View Residents' Association – Bob Smale
- Representative from KM football club – Kevin Broom

8. Any Other Business

None

9. Date of Next Meeting

April 2024, exact date to be advised

There being no other business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 2004