

NORTHALL VILLAGE TRUST

Registered Charity No. 1117673



Draft Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Northall Village Trust held on Friday 29th June 2018 at Northall Village Hall, commencing 8.00pm

Present:

Hall Management Committee

Mr A Tipper (Chairman)

Mrs L Cubbage (Bookings Secretary)

Mrs J Mathew (Asst. Bookings Secretary)

Ms S Pratt

Mr K Cubbage (Treasurer)

Dr R C Dorrance (Secretary)

Mr T Cox

Mr M Thomas

Residents of Northall, Hall Users, Guests:

Mrs S Young.

1. **Welcome**

The Chairman opened the Meeting by welcoming Residents of Northall, Hall Users, Guests and Committee Members. He thanked everybody for attending and commented that it was a pity that more villagers hadn't come to the meeting. The meeting had been well advertised in Focus and on Facebook. Complimentary Pimms was then served.

2. **Apologies**

Apologies were received from Mr R Harpley due to the birth of his grandchild earlier in the day.

3. **Minutes of the 2017 AGM**

The Minutes were approved and signed by the Chairman.

4. **Trustees Annual Report**

The Chairman presented the Trustees' Annual Report in the form of a PowerPoint presentation. The main points were:

- The solar panels had raised £1,103 during the year. This is a decrease on 2016 but the income for 2016 also included income for the last quarter of 2015.
- Overall Hall usage in 2017 had increased from 1,506 to 1,515 hours. This resulted from a significant increase by Regular Users offset by a similar reduction in hours by Ad Hoc Users.
- The Library/Book Swap Scheme raised £16.07 in 2017 providing funds for plants/bulbs.
- Fees were maintained at £5.50 per hour for regular users and £7.00 per hour for Ad Hoc users. Fees were also maintained at £12 per hour for people

living outside the four villages of Edlesborough, Eaton Bray, Dagnall and Northall. This makes them the lowest village hall hiring fees in the area.

- Hiring income increased in 2017 although the number of hours booked by ad hoc users fell. This is because there were more hirers from outside the four villages paying £12 per hour.
- The grounds continue to be excellently maintained by one professional contractor (grass and hedge cutting), one volunteer gardener, Bob Garrard, plus NVHMC Members.
- The kitchen extension project commenced in February with the groundwork, brickwork and roof being completed. The existing kitchen will be dismantled in July, the wall knocked through and new units installed. Features of the new kitchen will include a dishwasher, disabled access, a warming cabinet, two new ovens, an induction hob and most importantly a doubling of its size. Grants have been received from AVDC/VAHT Community Chest for £13,343, AVDC S106 £5,088 and WREN for £35,816. The balance will be funded from Northall Village Hall funds.

The Chairman concluded his report by describing the Management Committee's vision of making NVH one of *the best for cleanliness, décor, equipment, facilities, safety - and value for money*. The extension and modernisation of the kitchen will contribute to the achievement of the vision. The next projects under discussion include an extension of the car park and a new sensory garden, both of which will contribute to the Management Committee's vision for the Hall.

5. **Accounts for year ended 31st December 2017**

The Treasurer presented his the Trust's Annual Accounts using some PowerPoint slides. Income from Hall Lettings and forward bookings had increased to £11,882 from £9,582. Expenditure had dropped by £1,587 to £5,221 because there had been no major improvement projects in 2017. The overall surplus had increased to £37,595, but this includes a grant from AVDC/VAHT of £13,343 towards the cost of the kitchen extension. The additional surplus at the end of 2017 was planned by the Management Committee as part of its Reserves Policy to replenish the reserves after funding the installation of solar panels, and to fund the purchase of a dishwasher and new kitchenware for the kitchen extension project. The Treasurer explained that the NVH Reserves Policy has four elements:

- **Operating Reserves**, equivalent to 12 months minimum expenditure (currently £5,000), as a contingency against losing Regular Users, economic recession, fall in hiring income etc.
- **Building Reserves** of £4,000 to carry out emergency repairs, emergency replacement of essential equipment etc.
- **Sinking Fund** for the on-going improvement of the fabric, décor and facilities of the Hall (£3,000).
- **Possible Hall improvement projects** planned over the next few years (£7,000).

The Treasurer concluded his report showing how the annual donation of £2,188.81 from Edlesborough Parish Council had been used. He added that Dagnall Village Hall also benefits from a similar annual donation from EPC.

6. **Election of the NVH Management Committee**

The Chairman presented a slide listing the nine current Management Committee Members. The motion to elect the 9 Committee Members named on the slide was proposed by Mrs Cabbage and seconded by Mrs S Young. It was carried unanimously.

7. **Any other business**

Mr Cabbage initiated a discussion on the new car park. The Committee was considering extending the car park onto the grassy area, making the spaces wider to accommodate today's bigger cars, and white lining the car park in a herring bone pattern to accommodate longer cars. The car park had last been renovated in 1999. The proposed additions should accommodate a net increase of 6 more cars.

A villager raised the issue of the acoustics of the Hall. It was noted that there was an echo which made hearing difficult for some people, particularly those with hearing aids. This was noted.

It was noted that the hot weather had affected the plants and lawns. Access to the outside tap had been removed when the kitchen extension had been built in February. Water was now being carried from the kitchen several times a week.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the Meeting at approximately 8.40 pm.