

The Village Hall

MILBORNE ST ANDREW DT11 0JX

www.milbornestandrew.org.uk/villagehall

Registered Charity No. 1176828 (Formerly 301153)



Notes of the Milborne St Andrew Village Hall AGM

Thursday 24th April 2025 at 7pm in the Village Hall

Present: Eric Crichton, Linsey O'Neill, Gren Davies, Susan Poet, Roger Hodder Linda Wright, Jenny Balcon and Ian Karley.

Public attendees: - Ed Frost

Apologies: none

Eric welcomed everyone to the AGM and hoped that everyone was well.

The minutes of the AGM held 24th April 2024 were accepted as correct.

Chair's Report:

This had been circulated to the trustees and copies available at this meeting. The organisation adheres to the recommendations of the Charity Commission. Most trustees also represent a group who are regular users of the hall. Those on the committee who chose not to be trustees have no voting rights.

The committee meetings are held on a monthly basis. An agenda is circulated in advance; matters on the agenda are discussed including the finance statement and reports from the treasurer. Votes are taken when actions are required. The committee is a hard working one with people regularly putting in hours on jobs like checking and stocking the bar, and it is often members who are doing regular maintenance in and outside the hall.

The committee aims to ensure that the users of the hall and surrounding grounds are kept safe and risks are managed. There are annual inspections of all aspects that are recommended by the Health and Safety Executive., including general risk assessments, fire assessments electrical; and building features. There is a portfolio of policies; these can be viewed on our website.

The objective of the CIO is the provision and maintenance of the village hall and grounds for the use of the inhabitants of the parish of Milborne St Andrew without distinction of political, religious or other opinions , including use for meetings, lectures and classes and for other forms of recreation and leisure time occupation with the object of improving the conditions of the said inhabitants.

The hall is hired on a regular basis by groups established in the village. It is also hired by individuals and groups for parties, presentations etc. There are regular social events such as film night, ArtsReach, amateur play productions and the annual pantomime. There is also a monthly community café which has proved extremely popular which is thanks to the hard work of the organisers.

Despite concerns when the Ladybirds moved premises the booking secretary has done a good job in securing new business through corporate meetings etc.

We have had some successful fundraising events this year including a Murder Mystery Night, the Great Dorset Apple Cake Day and a Race Night.

Thanks to the committee for their hard work and support.

Acceptance of the report was proposed by Gren and seconded by Jenny.

Treasurer's report:

This was Nigel's first year as treasurer, and he thanked Ed for his help in the handover.

The treasurer's report was available at the meeting.

The loss of the Ladybirds in 2023 has significantly impacted rental income which is down from £16,727 to £9,158. We have however been fortunate in the booking secretary finding several replacements to help minimise the loss of income. Nonetheless the Hall ends the year with £17,837 in the bank – only £1,200 lower than the previous year thanks to prudent management of costs and other financial benefits via utilities.

Thanks to the efforts of the Trustees and others who arranged a number of community events throughout the year; the Milborne Movies added £1,034, the community Café a little over £2,000, Murder Mystery Night £1,200, Dorset Apple Cake Day £1,400 and a Race Night £1,000. Bar and ice cream sales at these events were about £1,600. There were costs associated with these events but an excellent income stream, nonetheless.

A fund raising "sponsor a slab" raised over £2,350 including Gift Aid which supported the building of the patio. A roll of honour has been added to the hall recognising all who contributed – thanks to them all.

The solar panels have fully supported our electricity costs also profiting us with £765. This was due to the benefit of 15p/kWh for most of the year, since September, however, that has reduced to 8p but we should still break even on electricity next year. For gas we received a credit of £500 from SSE, a belated payment from a government scheme in 2022. High usage of the hall and cold weather will mean higher bills this year.

Note that the bar costs include the purchase of ice creams that are claimed at film night as part of the entry fee; this does make the bar figures look as though it makes minimal profit. Bar prices may however need reviewing in 2025.

Costs associated with maintenance were minimised by many repairs being carried out by trustees and other volunteers, but regulatory annual inspections may highlight more major problems at any time.

Despite support from the parish Council (who have provided funding toward grass cutting and playpark inspection) the maintenance of the hall and recreational areas represent a financial

challenge. In 2025 the PC are only contributing £800 toward the grass cutting. It continues to be a great disappointment that our Parish Council does not see fit to provide a greater level of support for these well used community recreational facilities.

Hopefully in 2025 funds generated by the Community Café and other community events will be matched if not exceeded.

The Statement of Assets attached covers the financial year to 31st December 2024. The Trustees are grateful to Elizabeth Humphrey who continues to audit our accounts.

There being no questions the acceptance of the accounts was proposed by Ian and seconded by Linsey.

Any other business:

Ed Frost congratulated all those who had organised the successful events over the year. He noted that people will support such events as long as other people organise them!

He also commented on the PC small support it gives to the Village Hall. They keep the precept as low as possible but spend about 70% on administration which only leaves 30% for everything else including the hall. He suggested that when anything in the play park breaks not to replace it and make the parish realise that the hall also must maintain the land around it; he is sure that few people realise that.

Eric thanked Ed for his comments and the Trustees for their work.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 7.24 p.m.

