

**SHERFIELD ON LODDON VILLAGE HALL TRUSTEES**  
**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting**  
**held on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2022 at 7.30pm in the Garden Room at Sherfield Village Hall**

**Present:** Alan Ball, Bruce Batting, Ivan Gosden, Natalie Lerner, Ian Sellars

**1. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Eleanor Burt.

**2. Minutes of the AGM Meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> May 2021**

The minutes of the meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> May 2021 had been circulated and were agreed to be a true record.

**3. Chairman's Report**

Ivan Gosden gave a brief report on the year and warmly thanked the committee for their hard work over the last twelve months, particularly during the absence of Hazel Cook, Village Hall Caretaker. The Chairman's Report had been circulated before the meeting and no follow up questions arose. The Report is attached.

**4. Financial Report**

Ivan Gosden gave a report on behalf of the Honorary Treasurer.

- i. The Statement of Accounts and relevant documentation for the financial year ending September 2021 (Reg. Charity no. 272385) had been submitted and the issues on the Charity Commission website are finally in the process of being resolved.

The most inaccurate and damaging of these issues is that the non-operational CIO (Reg. Charity no. 1178256) continues to show our non-existent accounts as 898 days overdue! We hope that this can be resolved, too, but it may be the case that this will not change until the transfer to CIO status takes place.

- ii. Despite the challenges of the last three years, it was encouraging that, as many of the club and business bookings had returned and casual bookings had picked up during June 2021-May 2022, the current figures are a reasonably healthy:

|                               |            |
|-------------------------------|------------|
| Metro Bank Current A/C.       | £30,382.24 |
| Metro Bank (Events/Fete) A/C. | £1,116.80  |
| NatWest A/C                   | £4,418.88  |

- iii. However, it must be pointed out that although these figures are adequate for day-to-day running costs, some major expenditure is due ahead. The external redecoration of the main building is expected to come in at over £30,000 and considerable fundraising will need to be done in the coming year.
- iv. Shared concerns about steeply rising energy costs were expressed and it was hoped that the energy saving measures would prove helpful. A close eye will be kept on energy bills.
- v. Extra funds are expected from the Fete and Beer Festival and other fundraising events will be needed.
- vi. The 'temporary' Honorary Treasurer welcomed the news that someone had expressed interest in the post and would be happy to work with the incoming Treasurer to prepare a Draft Budget for the coming financial year, before standing aside when appropriate.

## **5. To appoint External Examiners**

Bruce Batting proposed that Wettone Matthews Limited (Market House, Alton) be appointed as External Examiners for the following year's accounts. This was seconded by Ian Sellars and carried unanimously.

## **6. Election of Officers**

**Chairman:** Bruce Batting proposed that Ivan Gosden continue as Chairman of the Trustees. This was seconded by Alan Ball and carried unanimously.

**Secretary:** following the resignation of Bruce Jones due to ill health, Ivan Gosden proposed Ian Sellars as Secretary to the Trustees. This was seconded by Natalie Larner and carried unanimously.

### **Honorary Treasurer pro tem**

Bruce Batting proposed that the trustees take up Wendy Gosden's kind offer to continue as Treasurer pro tem. This was seconded by Ian Sellars and carried unanimously.

### **Minute Secretary**

The current Minute Secretary, Eleanor Burt, had sent apologies for absence. The Trustees hope that Eleanor will continue as Minute Secretary but if this is not the case, this post will be raised at the next available opportunity.

### **Date of the next meeting:**

Ivan Gosden began by pointing out that, due to unforeseen circumstances, this year's meeting is being held in June. It is intended to revert to the historic May date next year.

**Next AGM: Monday 8 May 2023**

**Signed:**

**Dated:**

## SHERFIELD ON LODDON VILLAGE HALL AGM 6 June 2022

### Chairman's Report for year May 2021 – June 2022

Each time I look back over a year, I'm always surprised at how much has happened.

I'd like to begin by thanking my fellow trustees, staff and contractors, for all their hard work over the last tough twelve months. I'd also like to thank our volunteers and user groups for their continued support and loyalty.

Covid restrictions were lifted in July but you'll remember that people were still careful. Thankfully, most of our groups and businesses survived the last three years and came back to us quickly. In August, a FREE 'seated exercise class' for the elderly started called 'Let's Move'. It took off quickly and is very popular. By February, our regular Yoga class had also returned. Casual bookings, mainly wedding receptions and parties, picked up in the summer and so we were busy again. We've received some really appreciative feedback.

We had some changes closer to home, too. After furlough, Hazel Cook (Hall Caretaker) returned part-time on 1<sup>st</sup> June 2021 and to full time work at the end of September. We were all sad when Hazel was taken ill in October. I'm very grateful to the committee for manning the hall for a second period and to Anka and Vasile Lavarda for making an excellent job of cleaning the hall. I'm sure we'd all like to wish Hazel well when she returns later this month.

In February, after many years of service, Bruce Jones stepped down as a Trustee. We miss his quiet efficiency and reliability.

We've seen a number of planned works and improvements this year.

- The hanging baskets returned, thanks to the volunteers from the Gardening Club, and the garden was re-turfed.
- The EV Charger point was installed and its use has gone up steadily. Thanks to Ian Sellars for leading on this and to our three Borough Councillors and The Four Lanes Trust for funding.
- Wifi improvements were made in the summer and we've been thanked by the Arts Society for enabling them to run hybrid meetings – in the hall and on Zoom. Thanks to Alan Ball as lead.
- Throughout the year, attempts were made to find contractors to take on the outside redecoration.
- In October we became licensed for weddings and learned all that was involved.
- It was agreed to try to attract more volunteers to join the Management Team to help with the day-to-day running of the hall and fundraising.
- Unfortunately, in February, the heating boiler gave out at great expense.
- In March, an Application for Planning Permission was submitted for Phase II.

We've also seen a number of events return

- It was good to see Percy's Plant Sale back again and we are grateful for their donation. The proceeds were split three ways – Gardening Club, St Leonards and our Hall.
- Sadly, there was no Beer Festival or Fete, but both are planned for 2022
- Sheffield Together Again, held around our Village Hall garden, gave us a good opportunity to help the village come together again. A big success.
- In October, we were finally able to hold our Kitchen Opening Event, attended by Deputy Mayor and Mayoress Cllr. and Mrs Paul Miller. Thanks to Gilly as lead.
- A good number of people came to the hall again after the Remembrance Service. Thanks to Natalie and team.
- There was no January Barn Dance but a successful Puppet Show was held in April.
- Sunday Markets continued to bring in revenue and to showcase the hall. Thanks to Hazel, backed up by help from our committee and her team of volunteers from the village.
- I'm sure we're all tired after this busy Jubilee weekend but I think we should be really pleased that so many people turned out to the various events. Thanks to Jan Holden for chairing the Village Jubilee Committee and to all the volunteers who made such a success of each day.

There's a lot to look forward to in 2022/23 and I'm sure we'll all continue to work hard to make it happen and to deliver another successful year.

Ivan Gosden June 2022