

SOUTH HEIGHTON VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Minutes of Annual General Meeting held on 15 May 2023 at 8.00pm in the Village Hall

- Present: Louise Baxter (Co-opted Committee member), Norah Bessant (Co-opted Committee member), Clare Dickins (Treasurer), Gerry Hazell (Parish Council representative), John Johnson (Committee member), Geoff Knight (Committee member), Pip McTiffen (Co-opted Committee Member), Roger Scarles (Committee member), Sophy Thorpe (Secretary). No members of the public attended. John Johnson acted as Chair.
- Apologies for absence: Sue Crosthwaite (Co-opted Committee member), Tessa Pickstock (Chair).
- Minutes of last meeting: Minutes of the last AGM on 23 May 2022 were available to read. These were agreed as a true record.
- Finance: The Village Hall Committee's 2022-2023 balance sheet and statement of accounts were available to read.
- Chair's report: *Improvements to the village hall*
The committee continues to maintain the hall to a high standard. This year saw us replace both the arched front doors to the hall with new custom-made hardwood doors at a cost of just over £3000 as well as repair part of the wooden floor at a cost of £450.
- Hire of hall*
Hiring of the hall is a great source of income for the committee; it raised over £5000 during the year, and it continues to be a very popular venue for many members of our community and has been in high demand, particularly for children's parties.
- Bingo*
The village hall committee has been running the monthly bingo for over 30 years. It has its peaks and troughs, but this year has seen us attract a fair few new players which is always encouraging. Bingo nights raised nearly £700 over the year.
- Platinum Jubilee street party June 2022*
In June 2022, members of the village hall committee were pleased to be involved in running a street party for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee alongside other groups and members of the community. It was a not-for-profit event for which funding was received from various sources. This enabled us to put on lots of children's entertainment and activities and make the whole event free, meaning it was inclusive for all. The weather was kind to us and it was a hugely popular and successful event that will be fondly remembered for years to come.
- Jumble sales*
During the year we held two jumble sales at the village hall which raised just over £1000.
- South Heighton Bonfire Society*
South Heighton Bonfire Society is a sub-committee of the village hall and is responsible for fundraising towards the cost of putting on South Heighton Bonfire Night. To raise money this year the Society held an Easter Bunny Bingo, attended various fetes with its games, jointly held a race night with Borough Bonfire Society and held several quizzes at the pub. In addition, several members undertook individual fundraising challenges. SHBS also charges a small fee to become a member.

Although more of a social event than a fundraising one, SHBS also held a dinner dance at The View in Seaford in March 2023; the tickets sold out within days and it was a great success. The View even commented on how well they did at the bar that evening! South Heighton Bonfire Night itself was held on 10 November 2022 and we have never seen it so busy. The combination of having two years off due to Covid and the perfect weather for a bonfire event saw us let just over 3000 people onto the field to watch the fireworks. Despite the high numbers the event was well managed and saw no incidents. Overall for the year, the bonfire society made approximately £6500 profit, an outstanding amount.

Father Christmas December 2022

Father Christmas was in his grotto at the hall again in December 2022 and local children were invited to come and visit him and receive a small gift. Mulled wine, mince pies and soft drinks were also available for anyone that attended. The event is free for all who attend and as a committee it great to be able to give something back to the community.

Thanks

I cannot finish without thanking all my fellow committee members for their dedication and hard work, and I would also like to thank:

Gerri Hazel for representing South Heighton Parish Council.

The Hampden Arms as our Bonfire HQ and for their continued support with fundraising events.

South Heighton Parish Council, for their continued assistance with our bonfire night, and for the relevant permissions for use of the field.

And finally, to the numerous people who have helped man stalls, sort jumble and many other things that go on behind the scenes.

Open questions:

There were no questions raised from the floor as no members of the public were present.

Election of committee:

2023-2024 Committee

The full Committee members who were present were asked if they were prepared to stand again and all agreed.

As the current Chair was not in attendance it was decided to leave that decision to the next regular committee meeting on 19 June

Sophy Thorpe to remain as Secretary (proposer CD, seconder LB)

Clare Dickins to remain as Treasurer (proposer NB, seconder RS)

Roger Scarles to remain as Committee member (proposer CD, seconder LB)

John Johnson to remain as Committee member (proposer CD, seconder PM)

Geoff Knight wished to move from a full Committee member to Co-opted

Pip McTiffin wished to move from Co-opted to a full Committee member (proposer ST, seconder NB)

In summary:

6 full committee members: Clare Dickins, John Johnson, Pip McTiffin, Tessa Pickstock, Roger Scarles, Sophy Thorpe

6 co-opted members: Louise Baxter, Norah Bessant, Sue Crosthwaite, Jerry Drury, Geoff Knight, Carly Norris

3 representative members: South Heighton WI: Diane Tinkl; South Heighton Bonfire Society: Glenn Vardy; South Heighton Parish Council: Gerry Hazell

The meeting closed at 8.20pm.