

# **SOUTH HEIGHTON VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

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## **Minutes of Annual General Meeting held on 13 May 2024 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall**

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- Present: Louise Baxter (Co-opted Committee member), Norah Bessant (Co-opted Committee member), Sue Crosthwaite (Co-opted Committee member), Clare Dickins (Treasurer), Jerry Drury (Co-opted Committee member), Gerry Hazell (Parish Council representative), John Johnson (Chair), Pip McTiffen (Co-opted Committee Member), Tessa Pickstock (Co-opted Committee member), Roger Scarles (Committee member), Sophy Thorpe (Secretary), Florence West (Bonfire Society representative). No members of the public attended.
- Apologies for absence: All members were present.
- Minutes of last meeting: Minutes of the last AGM on 15 May 2023 were available to read. These were agreed as a true record.
- Finance: The Village Hall Committee's 2023-2024 balance sheet and statement of accounts were available to read.
- Chair's report:
- Donations  
*This year the Village Hall Management Committee was fortunate enough to be in receipt of a generous legacy of over £19,000 as well as memorial donations of over £750 from two long term residents of South Heighton who were both great supporters and users of the village hall.*
- Improvements to village hall  
*The committee continues to maintain the hall to a high standard. This year we had the old playground area at the back of the hall re-tarmacked and improved the patio area at a cost of around £5500.  
We also purchased new tables to replace the old, and very tatty, plastic tables.*
- Hire of hall  
*The hall continues to be a popular venue for hirers, particularly for children's parties, and last year the income from hiring was over £2600.*
- Bingo  
*The monthly bingo still attracts many regulars plus this year we have seen some fresh faces which is always encouraging. Bingo nights raised approx. £1250 throughout the year.*
- Jumble sales  
*We held three jumble sales at the village hall during the year and these, coupled with the private sale of some the donated items and the sale of excess clothing, raised over £1300.*
- 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 fund raise for last year's event, 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, the Hampden Arms has a collection jar for SHBS. The society also charges a small fee to become a member.*

*South Heighton Bonfire Night itself was held on 11 November 2023 and it was another remarkably busy year with around 3000 people attending the event. The event was well managed and saw no incidents.*

*Overall, for the year the bonfire society made approximately £6300 profit.*

#### Father Xmas December 2023

*Father Christmas was in his grotto at the hall again in December 2023 and local children were invited to 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:*

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

*Gerry Hazel for representing South Heighton Parish Council.*

*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 rest of the committee and their friends and family. Without you all we would not be able to continue, and the hall is a hugely important asset for the community.*

#### Open questions:

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

#### Election of committee:

2024-2025 Committee

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

John Johnson to remain as Chairman (proposer ST, seconder CD)

Sophy Thorpe to remain as Secretary (proposer TP, seconder PM)

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

Roger Scarles to remain as Committee member (proposer NB, seconder TP)

Louise Baxter to remain as Committee member (proposer SC, seconder ST)

Pip McTiffin to remain as Committee member (proposer CD, seconder JJ)

#### **In summary:**

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

6 co-opted members: Norah Bessant, Sue Crosthwaite, Jerry Drury, Tessa Pickstock

3 representative members: South Heighton Bonfire Society: Florence West; South Heighton Parish Council: Gerry Hazell

At present there is no WI representative

The meeting closed at 7.50pm.