

SHIMPLING VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE MEETING

Minutes of the Meeting– Monday 23rd September 2024

1. **Present at meeting:** Jenny Pine, Nathalie Brown, Carol Squire, Sarah Milhench, Sue Sharrock, Tina Campan

Apologies for absence: David Johnston, Liz Brunwin, Pip Pryor.

2. **Minutes of the last meeting:** Accepted as a correct record.

3. **Chairs Report:**

Since our last meeting we held the summer rock and roll dance at Shimpling Park Farm Barns. It was a great success, and I'd like to thank everyone who worked so hard to make it happen.

- Shimpling & Alpheton VHC members.
- The Pawsey's for letting us use their beautiful barn.
- Sarah Healy for the delicious food.

Jenny will give us the figures in her report.

Annual Review - We had a big clear out of the back room, freeing up a lot of space and did the annual inventory. Some of the items we found will be sold and any money will go to the VH funds. We have just purchased a brand-new electric cooker and fridge/freezer which were delivered and installed on Saturday.

Bookings - September has seen the return of all the fitness classes that were off during the summer break. We are still waiting for news from the fit village team as to a new class starting. Tuesday, we held the first film night since the summer a funny film, Wicked Little Letters. Attendance was poor but hopefully as the nights draw in, we may get a few more come to watch. Tickets for Quiz night on Saturday 19th October have gone on sale and I'm sure it'll be sold out very soon!

There is another panto in the pipeline and a read through of the script is tomorrow. (although not on the agenda we need to discuss logistics etc)

Maintenance

Everything seems in order for now, but if there's anything any of you can think of that needs looking into please let me know.

Projects

Double doors, electric car charging point and solar panels, we are still waiting to hear back from the PC regarding funding.

4. **Feedback from PC Meeting**

- **Solar Panels & Electric Car charging unit update**

The PC have applied for CIL funding for the Solar Panels from the County Council, which has been agreed. Their allocations are a max of 75% of the cost and the difference must be found locally. The quoted cost is around £12,000 but the PC Clerk will check if this has remained the same. In addition, there needs to be a survey of the roof to ensure its suitable for the panels. The PC are continuing to look for additional grants to support the project but if there is a shortfall the VH may have to fund it.

The Electric car charging point is being progressed, there should be a site visit in October to evaluate if it can be done. Gerry S is leading on this project and will be checking that what is being offered is not the older type which are not very efficient. If it is installed, then the hall will get an income of £200-300 pa and any charging income from its use.

- Neighbourhood Plan Survey – once the survey results have been analysed, there will be a meeting for residents in the VH to go through it, probably before Christmas.

5. Financial update

- **Current VH account position** - Jenny circulated the latest spreadsheet of the accounts and the Summer Dance final account. **(See appendix 1)**
Although the attendance was lower than last year a healthy profit of £ 579 was made due to the raffle ticket sales (£730) and the lower catering costs
Annual income v expenditure is currently on track and by the year end the balance should be over £2000
- **Review of Film Night**
Carol has done a review of the income (and expenditure) of the film Nights held over the past year. **(See appendix 2)**
There was a slight increase in attendance when the food trucks were present, and it was agreed that we should try to find additional providers who don't require a minimum sale level to attend.
Also, there was a discussion about providing food ourselves e.g. Charcuterie / Cheese boards at the Christmas film night (pre ordered) and see if this might be of interest to attendees going forward.
The hall acoustics were also discussed, Nathalie has had advice that carpet and thick curtains could reduce the echo.
Action: Nathalie to continue to investigate whether installing acoustic boards would be feasible.
It was agreed to continue the showing of films and pay the annual licence fee in October.
Action: Carol to check with licencing authority what the fee will be in Oct
- Proposed spending for 2024 / 5
 - Table Cloths – **Sarah to investigate getting new tablecloths**
 - Fridge/ Freezer & Cooker – purchased and installed. PC to contribute £200 towards cost
 - Store external door repair / replacement – **Carol to investigate cost of new door**
 - Notice Board & under sink bin – agreed – **Jenny to purchase**

5. Hall bookings update – Carol

- **Regular External / Private Bookings** – no changes. Dance Club is struggling to attract sufficient participants and may cease.
- **Fit Villages** – update - Carol is waiting to hear if Henry has found a fitness instructor for an evening session and will chase him again.
Children – no development due to Carol running out of time in the summer.
Discussed the lack of use of the table tennis set and felt its use should be encouraged.
Action: Tina agreed to ask Leo to assist in running a session to help spark interest – and will send Carol a proposed date.

6. Future VH Events:

- Income generating events for 2024
 - **Quiz** – 19th October – see planning sheet
Sue has compiled 8 categories and 2 table quizzes to be done during the supper break.
Action: Carol to ask Gerry if he is willing to be a marker again.
Sarah to ask Mark if he would be quiz master
Sarah will organise the food and everyone will help on the night. Suggested we do a pot of stew for each table, and then they help themselves.

Matt to do the bar in the lobby.

- **Christmas** – Children's party in the VH was not thought to be a good use of time. An alternative suggestion was that if we could persuade Lawrence to get his tractor out and it be decorated like Santa's Sleigh and at 4pm Mark (Santa) and Nathalie (Elf) could go round the village and give out a small present / sweets to each child, ending the ride at the nativity scene at 5pm for mulled wine and mince pies. If we have enough volunteers – to sing popular Carols there as well.

Date suggested – Friday 20th December

Sarah to ask Mark to be Santa

Nathalie to approach Lawrence about using his tractor

To firm up arrangements at the Nov committee meeting

Other sessions

- **Panto** – the first read through is on the 24th of September. The show will be in March 2025. Details of the arrangements between Alpheton and Shimpling VHs will need to be worked out before tickets go on sale. It was suggested that a separate bank account is set up for the income and expenditure.

Nathalie to give an update at the next meeting

- **Ceilidh / Barn Dance** – there was support to have a dance in the Autumn 2025 and again hopefully using Shimpling Park Farm Barns.

- **Any other ideas**

Silver jewellery making session – Carol to investigate running a workshop in 2025

Pottery Session – Sarah to ask local potter Cally James who lives in Lawshall and does classes and workshops what she can offer - <https://hippyhutpottery.co.uk>

Wreath making – this is usually before Christmas. **Liz** to let Carol know the dates

To discuss ideas again in November

7. Maintenance & improvement of the hall

- Annual inventory and disposal of unwanted / broken items – Carol has updated the inventory which is needed by the Parish Council to inform the renewal of the hall insurance. Items identified as no longer needed are to be sold / donations. Discussed the need to remove the items outside the hall and whether to hire a skip. It was felt that this would be expensive and there must be other ways of getting rid of the items. Tina suggested that the unwanted wood in the pile outside could be burnt on a bonfire. Action: Tina volunteered to help with transporting it to Hallifax place. The rest could probably go to the tip

8. Health & Safety

- Annual Fire evacuation drill - still needs to be done in Oct

9. Any other business

Dates of regular meetings: 4th Monday of every other month at 7-9pm 2024 / 5

25th November 2024

27th January 2025

24th March 2025