

SHIMPLING VILLAGE HALL AGM

Shimpling Village Hall - Monday 29th April 2024

Minutes of the meeting

Present at the meeting: Nathalie Brown – Chair, Jenny Pine – Treasurer, Carol Squire – Secretary, committee members Tina Campan & David Johnston
Liz Brunwin - Parish Councillor
Residents: Graham Bonson, Jan Brownfoot, Sue Sharrock, Mike Fahie-Wilson

1. SVHC minutes from 2023 AGM:

The minutes of the 2023 AGM had previously been circulated and were tabled at the AGM for agreement and adoption. A spelling mistake was corrected – the “e” removed from attendee Graham Bonson’s name.

2. The Chairs Annual Report for 2023/24:

We have had a very productive year with a healthy bank balance to show for it. We had a lengthy meeting with the PC and have discussed taking on more financial responsibilities, for us to do this we have to ensure the VH events are successful and well supported.

The weekly exercise classes bring in a regular income and are well advertised but we need them to be well attended to ensure they continue.

We are looking into starting a short bowls club and recently sent out questionnaires from fit villages to the residents to see what other classes they would like to see held at the VH.

Monthly film nights have also been successful, we try to show a variety of films that would appeal to all but attendance has dropped in the last few months, we’re hoping this is due to the cold weather and dark nights.

Last year the VHC continued the tradition of Shimpling celebrates with the annual cart race and fun and games for all at Hallifax place.

We are doing the same again this May bank holiday. There will be a climbing wall, axe throwing, bouncy castle, tug of war and much more. Although this doesn’t bring in any revenue it’s a fun event for the village.

August saw us hold a rock n roll evening at Shimpling Park Farm with Alpheton VH which was a great success and we’re holding another one on Saturday the 3rd of August.

In October the long-awaited return of Vernon’s quiz was held at the VH with fish and chips for the half time break, with the cost of everything going up it was difficult to make much of a profit but as it was so well attended, we will be holding another one this October.

The village hall has been used by the PCC for harvest festival, spring and Christmas markets wreath making and the sale trail.

We also held the pantomime this March which was so much fun to be a part of and we hope this will become a yearly event.

We have also been busy maintaining the VH. New water heaters were installed in the kitchen and ladies' toilets thanks to Laurence Rook and Ted Pine.

We've had new external lights to the driveway and front porch and an exterior socket put in too.

There are still a few projects we would like to get underway this year, one of them is installing Solar panels to the roof, this will help with the rising cost of electricity and also bring in income as we would (should) use less than we generate and help us provide a warm space for the community in winter, we are looking at government funding for this.

Finally, I'd like to say a big thank you to everyone on the VHC for all your hard work and support this year.

Nathalie Brown

Shimpling Village Hall Chair

3. Financial Report for 2023/24:

- Propose and agree accounts for 2023/4

Jenny Pine – Treasurer presented her report and the independently verified accounts for 2023 -24. The independent examiner was Mark Haselhurst.

Jan Brownfoot raised a question related to the income from the WI hall bookings querying why it was less this year. Carol Squire (secretary) explained that in the previous year, the Shimpling & Alpheton WI had met at Shimpling Village Hall due to the poor level of heating in the Alpheton hall. This year they have reverted to their usual arrangement of holding the meetings in each hall alternatively as Alpheton now has a new heating system installed.

- Propose and agree independent accounts examiner for 2024/5

Jenny Pine proposed that Mark Haselhurst be asked to be the independent examiner of the 2024-25 Shimpling Village Hall accounts. This was seconded by Carol Squire and Nathalie Brown and agreed.

- Propose and agree hall hire fees

Jenny Pine proposed that the hall hire fees remain as they are for the year 2024-25. Currently the hall is managing to secure sufficient income to cover expenditure and the committee wished to make the hiring of the hall affordable to the residents.

Agreed

4. Election of Officers:

- Chair

Nathalie Brown confirmed she was willing to continue as chair - agreed

- Secretary

Carol Squire confirmed she was willing to continue as secretary - agreed

- Treasurer

Jenny Pine confirmed she was willing to continue as treasurer - agreed

- Committee

The committee members present - Tina Campan & David Johnston, agreed to continue being on the committee.

Liz Brunwin agreed to continue as the link parish councillor.

New committee members – Nathalie Brown proposed that Sue Sharrock join the committee. Sue confirmed she was willing to join and David Johnston seconded the proposal.

Carol Squire proposed that Pip Pryor join the committee. Carol has had confirmation from Pip that she is willing but she is in the USA currently so unable to be present at the meeting. Liz Brunwin and Nathalie Brown seconded the proposal

6. Any other business:

Liz Brunwin conveyed the thanks from the Parish Council to the committee on a good years work.

Jan Brownfoot also congratulated the committee and expressed how lovely it was to see many different activities available for residents and the pantomime was great fun and hoped there will be more. She also asked the committee to explore restarting both Whist Drives and Short Mat Bowls – both were popular in the past.

Additionally, the drop in COVID vaccination booster session was also much appreciated.

Carol Squire reported that the recent Fit Villages survey has shown that there was interest in restarting the short mat bowls and in providing a more general fitness session. These two activities will be taken forward with the support of the Suffolk Fit Villages initiative.

Planning a Whist drive will also be added to the agenda for the next committee meeting.

Mike Fahie -Wilson indicated that another pantomime was being considered.

There were no further items raised and the meeting was closed.