

SHIMPLING VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE MEETING

Agenda – Monday 22nd July 2024

1. **Present at meeting** – Nathalie Brown, Jenny Pine, Carol Squire, Sue Sharrock, David Johnston Sarah Milhench **Apologies for absence:** Tina Campan Pip Pryor Liz Brunwin

2. **Minutes of the last meeting**

- Minutes agreed

Joint Shimpling & Alpheton Summer Dance

Ticket sales currently around 40 but to make a profit need to sell 60.

Carol has emailed all the attendees at last year's dance and Jenny has put adverts in the village magazines (Lawshall, Glemsford, Boxted, Hartest).

Action: to only use the main barn and courtyard (not the 2nd barn)

Jenny to confirm attendance number for the beer and wine order with Nethergate – 1 x 36pint poly and sale / return wine. Alpheton are managing the bar and stock.

Carol to advertise and sell tickets around the village.

Nathalie to check Jordy is coming to sell his ice-cream

David to ask Marion if Elise could be our first aider.

Sarah suggested & offered a magnum of wine to be given as the fancy dress prize.

3. **Chair's report to & feedback from PC Meeting**

Village hall report July 2024

Shimpling Celebrates was a great success.

We had a few riders in the cart race this year although we lost one very early! Thank you to all who joined in and congratulations to the winner Stuart Campan.

The weather held out for the family fun day... the climbing wall, egg throwing, and tug of war were the highlights of the day!

Burgers and fries were then served at the Bush Pub, thank you Hans for letting Matt loose in the kitchen!

So big, big thanks to all the VH team for all your hard work and for making the day a success.

Dance Tickets have gone on sale for the rock n roll night at Shimpling Park Farm on Saturday August 3rd and so far, sales are looking good.

Everything seems to be in hand with the workload shared between Shimpling & Alpheton village hall committee members.

I'm sure we'll get a last-minute surge in ticket sales.

Village Hall Hire

Some of the weekly classes will be stopping soon for the summer holidays but the Wednesday morning yoga class will continue throughout.

Wednesday night dance class seems to have been struggling recently but hopefully will get back on track.

Carol continues to liaise with fit villages, and they will soon be delivering the equipment needed to start the short mat bowls.

She is also working with them to find a fitness instructor for us to hold an evening fitness class.

The hall has also been hired out for a couple of funerals, a party and on Thursday 4th July as a polling station.

Film night

Last month (June) we had My Thai food truck join us for our D-Day film the Great Escaper, they were both well attended.

Unfortunately, our July film 23 walks had to be cancelled due to low attendance.

Maintenance

We had our annual PAT testing and a few items failed that will need replacing, 2 extension leads and advised that it would be good to think of replacing the fridge and cooker.

I have looked for replacements and found a deal at Curry's for a 3/4 fridge and a new electric cooker for £358 (we'll discuss this later in the meeting)

ACE will come and service the fire extinguishers on August 15th.

We need to arrange a date in August for us to do the annual stocktake and clearing of the back room.

The PC are still trying to get grants for the solar panels, electric car charging point and side doors.

Committee Members Sadly long standing VHC member Bernard has left us.

We thank him for all his help and still hope he'll be able to help with the cart race in the future!

We also welcome Sarah Milhench onto the committee

4. Financial update

- Current VH account position was presented by Jenny, which is looking healthy due to the ticket sales, currently at circa £4000. Jenny will continue to update forecast and spend monthly
- Proposed spending for 2024/5
Discussed the need to replace the fridge and cooker – both are old and showing signs of their age. Agreed to get them replaced removed and new ones installed from the Dance profits. New tablecloths would also be a welcome addition as currently we have a range of colours and sizes which don't look very professional when hiring the hall. Agreed these should be next on the list to purchase depending on Dance profits. Sarah informed the committee she may get an opportunity to acquire some as part of her work.

5. Hall bookings update – Carol

- **Discussion post report:** It was suggested that as most of the regulars at Dance Club were from Alpheton that it be held in their hall.
- **Film Night** – last film was not popular. Discussed if it should be continued if the price of the licence is significantly increased.
Action: Carol to establish what the renewal price will be. To do film night in Sept /Oct and decide if it's worth continuing.
- **Regular External / Private Bookings:** Still getting private hires but not frequently.
Action: Carol to advertise more prominently in the village magazine – include pictures
- **Fit Villages** – still waiting for Henry to deliver the short mat bowls equipment and identify the fitness instructor
Action: Carol to chase Henry.
- **Fit Villages Survey for Young People** – no action to date - proposed pick up after the dance in the school summer holiday.

6. Future VH Events:

- Income generating events for 2024

Proposed to hold more one-off events like the silver jewellery making course.

Action: Everyone to bring ideas to come to the next meeting

- **Quiz – Sue Sharrock volunteered to run the quiz instead of Bernard**

Discussed the price of the tickets – ideally to remain the same as last year - £15 per head

Discussed the food offer – fish and chips are popular but don't result in much profit for the hall (costed £12.50 per head).

Action: Sarah and Nathalie volunteered to cook food – e.g. Baked potatoes and Chilli with a veggie alternative for less per person than fish and chips was last year.

David volunteered to do scoring via a laptop and the AV system

Carol to purchase Temp bar licence. It was suggested people could pre order beer / wine for their table and then also have a small bar in the corner for extras

Discussed team sizes – agreed max of 6 in a team

Action: Carol to add details of the quiz to the village hall submission to the village newsletter.

Other sessions

- **Digital / Tech session** – Carol to contact local lead and see if she can suggest anyone now Bernard is not available
- **Panto** – will there be one in 2025 and where – Alpheton or Shimpling? Nathalie will check with Katie Haselhurst.
- **Christmas** – to be discussed at the next meeting

7. Maintenance & improvement of the hall

- Annual inventory check and disposal of unwanted / broken items including the old stage in the storeroom to be done on the 13th of August 11 am onwards
- Solar Panels – grant application is being progressed by the PC
- Electric Car charging unit – still being progressed by the PC

8. Health & Safety

- PAT Testing – completed 11th July and there were 2 items that failed – extension leads both have been replaced. The Fridge and cooker passed but are old and needing to be replaced.
Action: Carol to check when the full electrical system check is due – to be done every 5 years.
Post meeting information – the check is due Autumn 2025
- **Annual Fire equipment service** – booked for 15th August am and the fire drill to be done on the 13th of August at the clear up day. Assembly point to remain Bernard Essery's front lawn

9. Any other business

- Discussed the village newsletter. Generally felt that it would benefit from the addition of pictures where appropriate.

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

23rd September

25th November

27th January 2025

24th March 2025