

Sudbrook and West Willoughby Village Hall (SWVH) Committee Annual General Meeting 29th September 2022 Carlton Scroop Village Hall

1. Attendance

Present: John Somerville (JS), Louise Burn (LB), John Cairns (JC), Barbara Campbell (BC), Rae Seng (RS), Tom Williams (TW).

Apologies: Karen Barrett (KB), Tamara Coton (TC), Neil Gray (NG), Andy Newton (AN)

2. Chairman's Address.

JS welcomed all to the SWVH Committee Annual General Meeting (AGM) which had been advertised on the new Village Noticeboard and flyers delivered to each household in the Area of Benefit. **Peter Hall** had recently resigned from the Committee due to pressures of work and was thanked for his unstinted support since 2018. All other current trustees, the APC's representative member (**AN**) and the co-opted Treasurer (**NG**) had indicated a desire to continue in their roles. In addition, **BC** had kindly volunteered to stand as a candidate trustee and, as there were no other potential candidates, an election was not required.

3. Progress Report

JC delivered a Progress Report on the Committee's activities since the last AGM held on 7th October 2021. This report is at Attachment 1.

4. Financial Report.

NG had provided the following report on the Committee's finances:

"In the period 1 October 2021 to 30 September 2022, the charity has received the following income:

Jubilee Funds - £235.62
Sponsored swim - £325.00
Grant from SKDC - £210

Two payments out have been made during the same period:

Whatton Agriculture- fencing - £525.00
A Newton (hedge saplings) - £210 (matches the grant received from SKDC)

The bank account balance has increased slightly over the same period from £1655.54 at the 1 October 2021 to £1691.16 as at the 30 September 2022.

All the charities annual returns have been filed with the Charities commission and are up to date.”

TW reminded the Committee of the lengthy administrative difficulties that **NG** experienced when trying to take control of the VH’s bank account in 2018/19 and suggested that it might be prudent to have a second account holder added to cater for any unforeseen eventualities. **JS** agreed to request that **NG** explores this possibility with Lloyds Bank.

Also, it was subsequently noted that **TW** had yet to request reimbursement for the VH site’s annual insurance premium and the cost of the ‘cardboard cutout Queen’ used during the Platinum Jubilee event. **TW** would email **NG** with the details accordingly.

5. Arrangements for Next Meeting

The next routine meeting of SWWVH Committee was to be held immediately after this AGM and would be reported separately.

Attachments:

1. SWWVH COMMITTEE AGM PROGRESS REPORT – 29 September 2022

SWWVH COMMITTEE AGM PROGRESS REPORT – 29 September 2022

What I'd like to do now is to provide you with a brief summary of what the current Committee has been doing since its last AGM on 7th October 2021.

Site Improvements

I am sure you will all have noticed improvements being made to the front of the Village Hall (VH) site.

Firstly, the Christmas tree funded through Mrs Rosemary Kaberry-Brown last year has now been planted. The tree is in a bulk bag to restrict its growth and we intend transferring it to Ancaster Cemetery once it has started to outgrow the VH site.

Secondly, the old unsightly concrete posts and wire fence have been removed. As a replacement, one hundred Beech Hedge saplings were purchased through a grant, once again organised through Mrs Rosemary Kaberry-Brown. This number was sufficient to ensure a sufficiently thick hedge plus a few spares. The saplings have now been planted in 2 sections and most have survived so far through the diligent watering and weeding by John & Sheila Somerville and Lou Burn. Temporary mesh fences are being used to protect the saplings and to help prevent dog fouling on the site until the hedge reaches maturity. In addition, Spring bulbs have been planted on the strip of grass between the hedge and the footpath.

In addition, a wooden vehicle gate and a side gate have been erected between the two hedgerows. Thirty percent of the cost of the gates was provided by APC with the remainder being met by the VH fund.

Also, the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Memorial Bench that had been sourced through the efforts of Tom Williams some years ago has finally found its rightful place at the southern end of the VH frontage.

Finally, following the demise of the old APC noticeboard, a new and much larger Village noticeboard has been erected at the front of the VH site. The noticeboard was made by the Pelican Trust based in Lincoln. For those unfamiliar with the Trust, it is a collection of businesses on one site designed to give people the opportunity to retrain in a supportive and caring environment. The noticeboard was funded by APC and its main purpose is for displaying notices by APC and the SWWVH Committee, but other appropriate notices may be posted if space permits. Its keys are held by Andy Newton and John Somerville.

Events

A Christmas Carol Singing Event had been planned for Friday 17th December 2021. However, on 10th December 2021 the significant national concerns regarding the Omicron variant of the Covid virus and its potential impact on the number of attendees led the Committee to cancel the event. Nevertheless, Tamara Coton and Jo Williams raised over £300 for the VH fund by swimming in a local pond on New Year's Day. Their superb efforts were greatly appreciated, as was the hot mulled wine provided by the Campbell family afterwards!

A Platinum Jubilee 'Big Lunch' event was held on Sunday 5th June 2022. The planned scale of the event and associated activities had to be significantly curtailed due to very heavy rain and, not surprisingly, the number of residents attending was far less than originally anticipated. Nevertheless, the overall feedback from attendees was extremely positive with everyone particularly enjoying the opportunity to socialize with their neighbours. In addition, the quizzes, tombola, competitions (Best Hats/Crowns/Cakes) and subsequent auctioning of the cakes proved to be very popular. Furthermore, the event raised £235 for the Sudbrook and West Willoughby Village Hall Fund.

Future events have yet to be discussed but I'd anticipate Xmas Carol Singing and I'm sure that we'll be very interested to hear what the arrangements for the King's coronation will be!

Private Use of the Village Hall Site and Marquee

While residents have always had access to the Village Hall site on a casual basis, it may now be booked by residents for private events involving larger groups of people.

However, due to the lack of facilities (no electricity, water, toilets) and its close proximity to residential properties, booking of the site for private events will normally be limited to daylight hours and activities which will not disturb neighbouring households.

Private use of the site is free but a refundable bond of £100 to cover potential damage and/or non-adherence to the conditions of use will be charged.

Also, the Village Hall marquee is now available for hire both on and off the VH site. Erecting and dismantling the marquee requires a team of about 6 people and the use of a tall stepladder. Each process takes in the order of 2 hours to complete and should ideally be conducted on a dry and calm day. First-time hirers of the marquee will need to be instructed/supervised by a VH Committee member during the erection and dismantling of the marquee.

Once a booking request for the marquee has been accepted, a fee of £50 will be charged to cover for wear and tear of the marquee, and to provide our Charity's fund

with a modest revenue. A refundable bond of £100 to cover potential damage will also be charged.

The full conditions for using the site and/or hiring the marquee, plus the application forms, can be found in the SWWVH's section of the Ancaster Parish Council's website as can our minutes, newsletters and any other notices. Simply Google the Ancaster Parish Council's website and follow the menu for 'Parish Information' followed by 'All Parish Information'.

That concludes my report - are there any questions please?