

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL
MEETING OF DUDDENHOE END VILLAGE
HALL HELD WEDNESDAY 26 MAY 2010
IN THE VILLAGE HALL AT 8.00PM

PRESENT

Philip Clifton - Chairman
Jennifer Clifton
Jane Guy – Treasurer and Acting Secretary
Bob Reich
Susanne Reich

Also in attendance: Jonathan Adams, Martin Bach, Brian Barker, James Davies, Jayne Drinkwater, Carolyn Hughes, John Hughes, Trevor Guy, Maggie Last, Roberta Pearce, Di Pohlmann, Joan Sanderson, Laura Scarlett, Evert Westerhuis and Tineke Westerhuis.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Claire Apostolou, Zoë Broughton, Kate & Robert Chambers, Claire Folkes, Diane & Brian Schwieger and the Tuke Family.

2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting held 14 May 2009 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

3. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. Philip explained that the committee was an extremely 'streamlined lean mean machine' and needed as much help as possible from the village. As in 2008/09 the roles of Secretary and treasurer had been combined due to a shortage in officers. He reported on the events of 2009-10 as follows:

- a) Easter Egg Hunt 2009 – The 2009 Egg hunt was well attended and the weather was kinder than in the previous year allowing the opening of the Play equipment as the culmination of the event. Approximately 18 children enjoyed the new facility.
- b) Quiz with Langley The Quiz night organised as an inter-village competition with Langley Lower & Upper

Greens and Elmdon in June 2009 had been well attended. The profits were shared with Langley. A team from Duddenhoe End had won the competition.

- c) Harvest Supper. The Harvest Supper was held in October 2009. The Hog Roast had proved successful but the committee understood that several 'older' villagers felt that the format was not cohesive and there were some comments regarding the prices for wine. (See item 6e below) Generally the event had been well received with large numbers of families with children attending.
- d) Christmas Lights – The lights were lit, as in previous years – the Chairman confirmed that this would remain an annual event.
- e) Bookings of the Hall The chairman thanked Maggie Last for maintaining the bookings diary; Maggie had advised that as she would not be continuing as bookings contact in the future but would hand over to a member of the committee in the near future.
- f) Other matters The Chairman thanked all members of the committee for their input during the past year, particularly Claire Folkes who was standing down.

4. TREASURER'S REPORT

Jane submitted a schedule of accounts for 2009-2010, copy appended to these minutes. The accounts for 2009-2010 were approved.

5. ELECTION OF COMMITTEE 2010-2011

The Chairman advised that Claire Folkes was standing down from the committee, and as the rest of the committee members were happy to stand for 2010-2011 if elected, new members were needed. Martin Bach and Roberta Pearce expressed an interest and before they changed their minds were nominated, with the existing committee, by Jayne Drinkwater, seconded by Trevor Guy.

6. SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE EVENTS

- a) Cleaning Party: A provisional date had been set to clean the village hall from top to bottom on the weekend of 5-6 June 2010 volunteers were welcome for however

amount of time they could give to the project. One particular area in need of attention was the drain. Those attending the meeting recorded their names and whatever skills they could offer. It was agreed to hold cleaning parties at regular intervals to minimise the cleaning required in future.

- b) Drinks Evenings: It was suggested that the committee arrange regular 'drinks evenings' similar to those held when Barhale were working in Duddenhoe End.
- c) Village Walks: The walks to Chrishall and Elmdon had been popular and the committee were asked to consider these again.
- d) Midsummer Games: In order to provide the games enjoyed at the Harvest Suppers at a different time of year the committee were proposing to hold a 'Duddenhoe End Games' in July – featuring games that children and adults could participate – such as quoits, jenga, boule etc.
- e) Harvest Supper: The committee were asked to reconsider the structure of the Harvest Supper, returning to a more formal arrangement, perhaps involving the younger villagers as waiting staff (as was the custom) and providing an 'entertainment'.
- f) Quiz Night with Langley: The return event from 2009 – unlikely until early in 2011. There was general support for an additional village quiz; Joan Sanderson suggested something along the lines of the WI quizzes.
- g) Christmas Lights: This will be arranged for a Sunday afternoon early in December (possibly 5 December 2010)

7. PUBLICITY

Brian Barker suggested that the committee consider a programme of 10 or so events and publicize them in the Gazette on a monthly basis so everyone will know the forthcoming schedule.

Brian also suggested that prior commitment for people attending events was important to finance events. Maggie

reminded the meeting that this is a difficult 'ask' for such a small committee.

Trevor Guy apologised for the slow updates on the Village Hall website, he explained that the most interest generated from the site had been in the promotion of Olive's books. He acknowledged the comments from the meeting and agreed to look at some improvements.

8. MEMORIAL PLANTING

It was suggested by the committee that small shrubs be planted outside the Village Hall in memory of those villagers with a close connection to the Village Hall who had recently died, in particular Percy Loveday and Olive Harvey. It was agreed to proceed with this idea but not to mark the planting with any plaque. There was some discussion over the positioning of any shrubs; this would be achieved with the advice from James Davies.

9. GRANT FROM PARISH COUNCIL

Representatives from the Elmdon & Wenden Lofts Parish Council reminded the committee that a grant of £500 may be available for projects at the Village Hall – they suggested the purchase of suitable tables and chairs for the hall – especially as the Parish clerk found difficult to set up for their meetings. James Davies said that other hirers had commented on the difficulty of setting up at the hall. The committee agreed to consider this possible purchase for 2010-11 along with other schemes of merit.

The business meeting closed at 9.15pm