

Ellerker Village Hall Committee

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 15 November 2019

The Becksiders very kindly performed half an hour of songs and entertainment before the start of the meeting. Really excellent and the Chairman expressed his delight and gratitude to the members of the choir.

Minutes: The minutes of the last Annual General Meeting held on 23 November 2018 were signed as a correct record.

Chairman's Report: Good Evening and thank you committee members, trustees and members of the community for attending this evening and for your interest in the Village Hall. You are all very welcome; and do stay for a cup of tea and browse the village picture exhibition assembled by Tricia Christmas.

The committee this year was myself Mike Barnett, chairman (succeeding Tricia Christmas); Sue Parker, Secretary and church representative, Tricia Christmas, church representative. Mike Parker, Treasurer and Neighbourhood Watch representative; Suwfiya Habergham, Bookings Officer and Parish Council representative, David Wood, Neighbourhood Watch and Linda Wilson and Michael Riding, Playing Fields representatives. In addition, Brenda Jackson continues to make an excellent job of cleaning the hall and we do have a window cleaner quarterly for outside. I would like to thank everyone on the committee for their support throughout the year and for their individual contributions.

The online and mobile phone bookings facility continues to help in obtaining income and the Tai Chi, which started at the beginning of the year is now particularly popular. Events such as children's parties, the Beer Festival and ongoing use by village organisations help with regular income but we are always thinking about different ways of popularising the hall, so something under consideration is purchasing a table tennis table or two and maybe getting sufficient interest to start a team. The barn Dance again took place successfully, masterminded by Mike Parker with plenty of support from committee members; there were also many offerings from people across the village who gave their time and effort to the event, exemplifying real community team working. Special mention should be given to Paul Thomas, William Puckering and Ivor Davies.-

On the theme of team working, representatives of the Village Hall and the Playing Fields Committee have discussed closer collaboration between the two bodies. This would not amount to a merging of the two legal entities because of the legal costs and complexities involved in this, but joint working in areas of common interest. At this point there is no final conclusion but a major concern continually raised is that if there was one social events committee covering say, the Barn Dance and Beer Festival, fewer people would ultimately be engaged and the burden would fall on that reduced number. This would be completely at odds with the aims of closer collaboration.

So far as maintenance is concerned, Mike Parker made good the plasterwork and repainting of a damaged wall in the hall, Mike Riding arranged a cost-effective woodworm treatment under the stage and arrangements are being made for guttering and soffits to be replaced.

We look forward to another successful year and in closing remind you of the Time Capsule under the concrete ramp by the front door.

Treasurer's Report: Mike presented the accounts for the year ended 30 September 2019. Overall, total costs exceeded letting income by £965.32. However, Barn Dance profit of £1108.18 had enabled a profit of £218.86 to be made. Mike stressed that our regular income from the hire of the hall should exceed our running costs and other items such as Barn Dance profit should be retained to cover future contingencies. There was margin to increase bookings for Thursday and Friday where there was a marked lack of activity.

Representatives from Village Organisations:

St. Anne's Church	Tricia Christmas and Sue Parker
W.I.	No response
Parish Council	Suwfiya Habergham
Playing Fields	Mike Riding and Linda Wilson
Neighbourhood Watch	Mike Parker and David Wood

Mike Barnett

Mike Barnett agreed to carry on as Chairman, Mike Parker as Treasurer and Sue Parker as Secretary.

Any other business: The committee have been asked to be represented at a meeting to discuss the thorny issue of parking in the village to be held on 10.12.19.

Date of next meeting: 15 January 2020