

Harrington Village Hall Committee

Minutes of Meeting Tuesday 6th September 2022

The Village Hall held its AGM on Tuesday 6th September, when we were able to report that the Village Hall has been in great demand this year, We have welcomed a film crew for 2 days, children's parties, clothes sales and a Cancer Research Charity tea.

The community has used the hall for weekly Friday coffee mornings, Parish and Residents meetings, a History Group, a Biodiversity Group, Arthingworth WI and a Cross Border Group.

Events held in the hall have included the Village Hog Roast, the annual Snowdrop walk, a Lenten lunch, The Queens Diamond Jubilee picnic and most recently the signing of the Condolence book for her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

Tuesday 18th October there will be a Harvest Supper held in the Village Hall. A two course meal will be on offer, catered by Joe and Flo from the Tolly. There will be a pay bar and an auction. Please come along and join us for what promises to be a good evening.

Tickets are £10.00 per person and the proceeds will be divided between the church and village hall.

Tickets will be on sale at the Tolly and by calling Barbara on 07725176371

History Group Report for AGM

The History Group continue to meet in the Village Hall fortnightly from 2.00pm to 3.30pm. Our many documents are in one of the cupboards and one filing cabinet.

We thank the Village Hall Committee for framing the 1864 map with field names and those of the tenants at that time. Tony Heggs kindly put it all together, it was too fragile to be left without protection. At this time Harrington belonged to Mr R C Naylor of Kelmarsh Hall.

Gradually all the houses have been identified and have separate information sheets recording their residents through the decades. This was not an easy task as house numbers have been changed and a major reconstruction at the southern approach of the village due to demolition of cottages.

A volunteer has offered to paint the kiosk and thought is being given to how to display the material. Robert Hall is developing this aspect.

Committee Meeting following the AGM

1. Present/Apologies

Present Barbara Wallis, Dave Thorley, Betty West, Helen Worsley and Tony Hedges. Apologies Sally Brookshaw and Ian Hanson

2. Minutes of previous meeting 25th July 2022

Accepted

3. Treasurer's report

a) Bank Balance – 'rainy day account' 3k, Current Account 15K

b) Year-end accounts – Are going to be finalised and submitted over the next few weeks.

It was highlighted that the current income of the village hall was not going to cover its outgoings going forward and whilst the current bank balances are good we need to address the shortfall on an ongoing basis.

It was decided that the cost to hire the village hall should increase to;

Villagers, £12 for the first hour and £8 every hour thereafter.

None villagers, £15 for the first hour and £12 every hour thereafter.

Given the energy price rises and the fact that when you rent the hall the utilities are now included (historically pound coins were needed to 'feed the meter') it was considered a very reasonable price for a well resourced venue.

Helen will write to warners to advise them of the price increase from 1st November with an additional caveat that we reserve the right to further increase subject to energy prices increasing.

4. Use of the Hall

The main users of the hall have been Warners but we have also had two clothing sales, a WI meeting and a birthday party

5. Harvest Supper

A provisional date of Tuesday 18th October was decided on. Barbara will liaise with Sally to arrange a joint 'organising' meeting hopefully next week. Helen will approach Joe and Flo from the Tolly to see if being on a Tuesday it will enable them to enjoy a village event and additionally to explore if the Tolly could make a cottage or shepherds pie for the event (with an additional vegan option). Our initial thoughts were to have a pay bar, homemade deserts and an auction of bundled raffle prizes. The ticket price would be £10. Barbara will also approach Warners to see if they will gift some Gin.

6. Play date

Unfortunately we still have not had a response re organising a play date for the younger children in the village. Barbara will talk to Ellis (next door) to see if she has any thoughts and would like to help.

7. Christmas Party and Carol Service

Sunday 18th December is the date for the church carol service so it was decided a Christmas party at lunchtime on the same day would be good as it would enable people to wander down to the service afterwards should they wish to.

8. Snow drop planting

Betty has ordered snowdrop and daffodil bulbs and Johnny and Tony have volunteered to help Dave plant them.

9. Snowdrop walk

The date of Sunday February 19th has been pencilled in but it will be reviewed nearer the time. Chris has painted some pots and will continue to do so for the bulbs that we intend to sell on the day to be planted in. – thank you Chris. Helen will investigate notices we could put further out of the village to advertise the event nearer the time.

10.AOB

We hope to instigate a Harrington 100 Club to raise money on an ongoing basis. It will be run in accordance with strict guidelines and is similar to a very small lottery with prizes every month.

Dave raised the question of who are the trustees of the Village Hall. There is currently confusion as it was understood the Dioceses of Peterborough were the owners but this is no longer clear. Dave is named as a trustee at the bank and has advised them that he is not. We need to establish the ownership.

11. Date of the next meeting

12th October 7pm