

SPFA AGM 25th JULY 2019 at 7:30pm

Held at Seavington Millennium Hall

MINUTES

Present: Elaine Edwards(EE) as PC rep, Janice Ash(JA), Nick Ellis(NE), Mark Ellis(ME), David Froome(DF), Jenny Froome(JF), Michael Harrison(MH), Terry Jagers(TJ), Amanda Jagers(AJ), Pauline Eardley(PE), Annie Prichard(AP), Chris Gough (Chair) (CG) David Bennett (Treasurer)(DB), Marion Bennett, Liz Tope

1. CG welcomed everyone to the meeting.
2. Apologies: Karen Day, Jo Culham, Sally Gough, Nick Church, Tony and Shirley Farrington.
3. Michael Harrison (MH) informed the meeting that he was stepping down from both the committee and his role as Minute Secretary forthwith due to his health, and as such, would be unable to take the minutes of this AGM. Very kindly, Amanda Jagers (AJ) stepped in to take the minutes of this meeting instead.
4. Minutes of 2018 AGM were agreed as accurate and signed by CG.
5. Matters arising: ME mentioned to the meeting that one of the Millennium oak trees had been removed from the playing fields as it was diseased. Jo Mills has arranged for a local woodturner to make something for the village from the wood. It is anticipated that the Parish Council will help pay for that and a replacement tree.

JA asked about football matches. CG explained that the Donyatt football team's agreement had been cancelled as at the end of the 2018/19 season. Crewkerne U10s are practicing here. It was noted that the full-size goal posts will need replacing if teams are going to use the field in the future.

5. Chairman's Report: This is the end of Chris's 3rd year as Chair. The very strong relationship between the SPFA and the Community Shop continues. The committee is also looking forward to working with the CLT in the future and hope that the SPFA will be eligible to apply and receive appropriate funding grants in due course that will benefit the local community.

Personnel: Laura Gowers has resigned from her position of bookings clerk, as she is moving from the village. An advert had been placed in the Seavington News. CG and DB interviewed candidates and Georgina Fisher was appointed.

Progress with activities: The garden project (primarily funded by grants) is going well, led by Karen Day. Wheelchair ramp access to the hall is being incorporated into the new outside patio area. Under 5s play equipment has been moved to the main play area. The overflow car park has been completed. Chris thanked the Gardening Club for providing and caring for the troughs of plants at the front of the hall. Chris added that the hedging project has transformed the playing field.

Playground project: This is an ambitious project to upgrade the current facilities. Several grants have been awarded and considerable progress has been made. The zip wire has been delayed, due to the opportunity to apply for additional grants for other equipment. The slide has been renovated together with the swing set where new chains and seats have been installed. All equipment that is due to remain in the playground has been cleaned and refurbished as necessary. The SPFA has worked closely with SSDC play advisors, who have provided excellent support and advice. Chris also thanked the Parish Council for their continued support.

Chris also thanked Karen Day (Project Manager) and Jo Culham for all their work.

Chris reminded all present that the Millennium Hall is now more than 20 years old and, increasingly, will require work to be done. The fire alarm system has been upgraded and some kitchen equipment replaced.

Financially, the Hall operates at around break-even. The Committee believes that grant applications are definitely the best way forward to raise significant amounts of funds. The consequence of this is that there are fewer social fund raising events in the Village so Chris asked anyone interested in fundraising or running social events to come forward and volunteer.

In July 2020 the Caravan and Motorhome Club Concert Band will be holding a rally in Seavington, on the playing field. There will be 20-30 caravans and the band will give a concert in the hall for the benefit of the local community. Chris will put further information in the Seavington News. A Bavarian Night has been booked for the Friday night of their stay and other activities are planned.

Committee Meetings: these are currently held three or four times a year as required. The focus is on overseeing current activities and discussing / endorsing future plans and projects. Village organisations and individual members form the committee and new members would be very welcomed. Chris invited enquiries from anyone interested.

Nick Church needs assistance organising maintenance and small DIY jobs. The need for an official secretary has been discussed and a vice chair is needed. Jackie Priddle has resigned as cleaner, Chris thanked her in her

absence for all her hard work. She remains on the committee and continues to organise the lottery. A new cleaner has been appointed (Heather Jameson).

Chris thanked Michael Harrison for his many years of service to the committee and all his work as Minutes Secretary, as he steps down.

Chris thanked David for all his work as Treasurer, particularly during the past few months. He informed the meeting that hiring charges have recently been reviewed in line with other local village halls and as a result, most hirers will see a modest increase which will be introduced in due course.

6. Treasurer's Report: DB informed the meeting that, as forecasted, there is a significant deficit this year, there has been a large outlay on the various projects. The reserves are currently about £11,000. A new cooker has been purchased.

NE enquired what level of reserve is sensible to carry, DB replied about £5000 (half a year's expenditure.)

The financial statements are on the village website.

7. Election of the committee: With the exception of Michael Harrison, all the trustees of the committee are willing to stand for re-election. TJ proposed their joint election, DF seconded, agreed unanimously. (Trustee Committee members are DB, AP, KD, CG (Chair and Church rep.), Seavington, Shop, Gardening Club and Parish Council, There were no nominations for new members.
- 8 All other notified business: None.

Meeting ended at 19.56.