

NORTH CADBURY VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
Draft Minutes of the AGM 15th October 2020

Present: Mr R Russell, Mr A Bentley, Mrs M Whitmore, Mr J Rundle, Mrs A Cook, Mr D Loe, Mr J Watts, Mrs E Watts, Mrs J Roseveare, Mrs K Vaughan, Mr B Morris, Mrs C Harding, Ms D Chodren, Mrs N Wilson, Mrs J Jennings, Mr G Jennings, Mr R Rundle, Mrs E Hall-Sayer, Mrs K Harris and Mr G Harris.

Apologies: Mr & Mrs Gilbert, Mrs L Saffer, Mr A Keys-Toyer and Mrs S Morris.

The Chairman, Robin Russell welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Minutes of AGM October 2019

Minutes of AGM October 2019 were read. The minutes were agreed and then signed by the Chairman.

Matters arising – none.

Trustees Report 1st April 2019 to 31st March 2020

Mr Russell read the report to the meeting and explained that it will be placed on the Charity Commissioners website.

Treasurer's Report 1st April 2019 to 31st March 2020

The report was made available to all present. Mr Bentley explained that the report had been agreed by the committee and it will be placed on the Charity Commissioners website.

200 Club report

Mrs Roseveare reported that the number of subscribers had been maintained at the 2019 level (154). Coffee mornings had been cancelled due to the pandemic but the monthly draws were still being made with the Chairman verifying the result. The winning numbers are posted outside of the Village shop. It is hoped that coffee mornings can be restarted when Covid rules allow.

Film nights – Mr Loe reported that films had been shown in October, November and January. The March film was cancelled due to the Virus lockdown. Audiences ranged from 30-64 with an average of 42. The total profit from ticket sales was £125.65 and the estimated bar and ice cream profit is estimated at £200 making a total profit of around £325.65. A new sound system was installed in February 2020 at a cost of £2204. This was to replace the aged existing equipment which was very poor by comparison, particularly for people with hearing difficulties. Further there is the need for a new sound loop system which is estimated at around £400.

When the film performances resume will depend on the safety of the audience and operators, at best is Spring 2021 but it might be later.

Booking secretary's report

The usual classes and clubs had been meeting this year with the addition of 'Messy Play' for young children and 'Nosey Barkers' for dog training. This meant the hall was hired out nearly every day of the week. There had been a variety of private bookings along with events put on by the committee. All of this stopped on March 23rd when the Covid lockdown started. In September, the Hall reopened under the Government guidelines. Since then, Daisy Group, Pilates, Table Tennis, Art Class and Toddler Group have restarted. It is hoped that other groups will restart when the guidelines make this possible.

Reports from Representatives

North Cadbury Women's Group – Mrs Whitmore reported that the group had 25 members. They held a successful autumn fair. Meetings had stopped in March due to the pandemic and it is not known when they will be able to restart meetings at the Hall and invite their speakers. Members are keeping in touch.

Tennis Club – Mrs Harding reported the start of the club's season had been postponed but the courts were able to open for use on 13th May under Government guidelines. Singles matches were allowed and doubles from July. The Club had benefited from an LTA refund of membership fees for 2019/20. This had enabled the committee to reduce members fees for 2020/21 only to £5 per member/£10 for family membership and £1 for 'pay as you play' use of the court. New members are always welcome.

North Cadbury and District Gardening Club – Mr Morris reported that the club had only managed two meetings this year before the Covid-19 pandemic but were able to hold an Open Gardens event in July, an outing to Burrow Farm Gardens and an Autumn Garden event. Pelargoniums donated by Castle Gardens could not be used for a competition so had been put into the Village Hall window boxes. Volunteers had maintained the Hall wildflower patch, rose garden and plants in the stone trough. Planning for 2021 program is underway and the club hopes to restart meetings at the Hall in 2021. New members are always welcome.

North Cadbury Short Mat Bowls Club – Mr Rundle reported that the club had 18 members who enjoyed club evenings and league matches. New members are always welcome and fees are very reasonable. They were not able to meet due to the pandemic and so had not been able to find out if the floor renovations will have improved problems they had reported in the past. Restarting their sessions would depend on guidance given by the English Short Mat Bowls Association.

North Cadbury Toddler Group – Mrs Cook informed the meeting that the Toddler group had not nominated a representative to the committee and she had not received a report from them. Mr Russell informed the meeting that the group had met at the Hall recently, their usual session being on Wednesday mornings.

Parochial Church Council – Mrs Wilson reported that St Michaels had to close during the Covid lockdown but was now opened for private prayer on Wednesday afternoons and for socially distanced services on Sundays. Fundraising events by The Friends of St Michaels had been postponed. Food bank collection points have been spread around the village. Excalibur can be found on the Church website and the Rector has twice weekly online 'Cutting Edge' service that can be read parishioners. It is hoped to restart deliveries of Excalibur to home soon.

North Cadbury and Yarlinton Parish Council – Mr Rundle reported that there had been changes to the members of the PC. They are having monthly meetings on ZOOM, to which parishioners are invited to attend. There is a new website on which information, minutes etc can be found. The annual precept was increased by £500 this year, two of the largest items in this budget are the grass cutting for both village halls, which continues to be funded by the Parish Council. The finger post repairs/refurbishment had been completed. Planning, environment, highways, footpaths and road safety issues are matters considered regularly. The Neighbourhood Planning Group had done a great deal of work over the year as it is essential to keep in line with the planned schedule to ensure the completion of the plan by next year. A consultation exercise with the community is due to take place shortly but doing this at the village halls is not practical under the Covid rule of 6. Information is available on the Neighbour Hood Plan website.

North Cadbury Parent, Teachers and Friends association Liz Hall-Say reported that the PTAFAs had recently formed their committee. The school has a grant for replacing the aged temporary classrooms. The PTAFAs have started to do in-school events and raffles.

Cary & Camelot Table Tennis Club – Mr Bentley reported that the club was doing well up to the March lockdown and league games had been going well.

However, with the COVID lockdown the club had to suspend sessions and were only able to start up again in August, applying the protocols advised by Table Tennis England. Members are currently only allowed to play singles, so sessions are limited to just 6 players and the club has to operate a booking system, as there are more than 6 members who want to play singles. With the reduced numbers per session we have had to increase the attendance fee to cover the hire costs.

The club hopes to continue like this until COVID restrictions are loosened (or tightened) but may have to suspend the club if it gets too cold as we need to have the windows and doors open for ventilation.

Camelot Players – Mr Russell reported that the 2020 panto had been cancelled as rehearsals could not take place safely under Government guidance. They are working on a plan for a socially distanced, online ‘Cinderella’ that could be viewed on their website in December. They hope to be able to put on ‘Snow White’ in December 2021 and possibly a play during the year if the Covid pandemic allows.

North Cadbury Bridge Club – Mrs Wilson’s reported that pre-Covid members met regularly with four tables in play. The pandemic stopped their meetings and some are now playing bridge online. They hope 2021 will allow them to restart their meetings.

Mr Russell thanked all the committee efforts over the last year. He especially thanked Piers Keating and Annette Watts for their help with fundraising and Take Art performances. He informed the meeting that Marion Whitemore had resigned from the committee as she would be leaving the village, so would no longer be the Booking Secretary. He thanked her for the work she had done over the years as, ensuring that hirers have no difficulty viewing the hall and making their bookings.

Mrs Cook added her thanks saying that Mrs Whitemore had been an excellent ambassador and fundraiser for North Cadbury Village Hall, who would be missed by the community.

Mr Russell then informed the meeting that all current committee members would now stand down and a new committee would be formed in accordance with the Trust document.

Representative put forward by their organisations

North Cadbury Parish Council – John Rundle

Parochial Church Council – Nicky Wilson

North Cadbury School PTAFAs – Liz Hall-Say

North Cadbury Tennis Club - Claire Harding

North Cadbury and District Gardening Club – Brian Morris

Camelot Table Tennis Club – Andrew Bentley

North Cadbury Short Mat Bowls Club – Richard Rundle

Camelot Players – Lyn Saffer

North Cadbury Bridge Club - Nicky Wilson

Women’s Group - vacancy

North Cadbury Toddler Group - vacancy

Election of members

Name

David Loe

Robin Russell

Ann Cook

Proposer

Marion Whitemore

Andy Bentley

Robin Russell

Seconder

Ann Cook

Nicky Wilson

Katherine Vaughan

Esther Watts
Andrew Keys-Toyer
Juliette Roseveare

Robin Russell
Ann Cook
Andy Bentley

Claire Harding
Andy Bentley
John Rundle

The above named were elected unanimously.

Co-options

Mrs Cook informed the meeting that four people could be co-opted to the committee.

Mr Watts, Mrs Jennings and Mr Jennings put their names forward to be co-opted.

AOB

1. Mr Bentley informed the meeting that the Hall had not had hiring income for four months of the Covid lockdown. Insurance, electricity and cleaning costs still had to be met. A successful application for a Covid Small Business Grant resulted in £10,000.00 being received. Cottage rental income continues. The Hall has been redecorated and the floor renovated. In August and September a few groups started sessions. Any change to Government instructions would be complied with.
2. Dechen Chodren explained her job as a Somerset Village Agent and the help she can give to people living in our community. She is willing to put Juliette in touch with the relevant officer at Somerset County Council so advice can be obtained about re-starting coffee mornings.
3. Sue Gilbert had sent an email, which was read to the meeting and had provided information about grant applications.

As you may recall, I did mention improving the playground equipment at the last AGM and was told that it would be considered, but of course Covid-19 got in the way.

I would therefore like to renew my request that consideration be given to extending the range of equipment in the playground. My thoughts would be to include some balancing equipment and perhaps a ground-level trampoline but perhaps regular users with a wider experience of these facilities could be asked to say what they would prefer.

I appreciate that funds would be needed to achieve this and have therefore contacted South Somerset Community Grants to see whether funding might be available for such a project. Below is the very helpful reply I received from Helen who administers these grants. As she explains, the grants match any funding raised/donated by the Village Hall, up to a maximum of 50% of the total cost. The parish council contribution can be as little as £50 - 100.

Robin advised the meeting that the last grant for equipment was obtained in 2004 Committee regularly considers repairs to play equipment, fencing, provision of seats and affordability. To replace equipment, grant schemes would need to be explored. . This will be added to the November agenda.

4. David Loe asked about the repair of the hearing loop. Mr Russell informed the meeting that this was being dealt with.
5. Mrs Cook thanked Mr Russell, all committee members past and present and volunteers from the community for their work in managing and maintaining the hall and the playing field as both are important community resources that will continue to be needed in years to come. The new Trustees will be part of this for the benefit of our community

Mr Russell closed the meeting.