

LAWSHALL VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

A.G.M. 3 October 2022 7.00pm

Displays/ reports from Hall users

Representatives from several groups who use the Village Hall attended and gave reports on their various groups:

The Young Farmers Club provided displays and gave an interesting resume about the group.

Barre Define explained the benefit of exercise which improved the whole body core.

Lawshall Ladies had made a picture board of several of the activities undertaken during the year and gave a brief talk about the group. Lawshall Ladies also run the Community Cafe on the third Wednesday of the month.

Indoor Bowls a member of the indoor bowls club gave a demonstration of the technique whilst Julian spoke about the club.

Table Tennis Julian also spoke about the table tennis club.

Report successes and challenges throughout the year

- improvements
- alcohol licence situation

Jenna referred to a report, which had been made widely available, outlining the achievements during the last year, the roles taken on by current committee members and the proposed development of the Jubilee Room to enable that to be hired independently of the main hall.

Enquiries to be made with regard to the need for a music licence.

Ian is still trying to identify a contractor to undertake work on the roof gulley.

Jenna has identified websites that do not feature Lawshall Village Hall as a possible venue.

A decision needs to be made regarding a fee to hold weddings at the hall.

Formal part of meeting

1. Present:

Jenna Kitchen, Acting Chair, Rosemary Riches, Minutes, Ian Carrington, Julian Delafortrie, Wendy Harris, Paul Ricketts.

Plus: Bryan Adams(Lawshall Trust) “past chairs of the Village Hall – Malcolm Edgar, John Payne. A parish councillor – Suzanne Ricketts and around 30 hall users and members of the public.

2. Apologies:

Leanne Hornby, Treasurer - Jean Clements Trustee for Lawshall Trust

3. Approval of the minutes of the previous A.G.M

The minutes of the previous AGM were approved.

4. Finances: AGM: approval of accounts/appointment of auditor.

A treasurers report was made widely available to the meeting.

It was noted that the lottery income has increased. The hall is very reliant on the lottery income.

Advertising in R & A has also gone up this year following a loss of £45 last year.

There was some discussion whether R & A should just be published on-line with an annual charge per year for those villagers who still prefer a paper copy.

It was noted that printing a small number of paper copies can be very expensive although negotiations could take place with the printers.

It was generally felt that a paper copy is more beneficial although it was mentioned some people do not read the magazine.

It was noted that one village paid a years subscription towards the magazine.

Advertising helps to pay for the magazine and regular advertisers pay 3 months in advance. The Church magazine, which is no longer published, charged advertisers one year in advance.

The Accounts need to be approved and it was agreed that John Parker should continue to audit them.

With regard to income, Ingrid Grant noted that people who had craft tables in the car park were being charged for a table whilst the Community Cafe was already paying a small charge for the hall. She felt it was unreasonable to have to pay for a space in the car park when they were often making very little money and that it was pushing potential people away. It was explained that this was a legacy from during covid when businesses were selling products from the car park and were making money – this had been the only income for the hall during covid and the charge has been reduced to £5.00. It was hoped to get the craft stall active again in the next months.

It was suggested that in future, the craft stalls should be asked to donate a possible 10% of any money made. This could be monitored.

Malcolm, a previous Chair of the VHMC, said that they had previously held two very successful Race Nights organised by a firm with videos, the first of which made £1,200. The next one, combined with an auction, also made over £1000. He said it had been hard work but he had canvassed around Bury asking for items to auction. Malcolm said they had not charged an entrance fee and had also supplied drinks. It was not necessary to have a gambling licence.

Ian noted that the Hall already has a licence for the lottery which may cover such an event

Wendy said that she had looked into that on one occasion and the company had wanted £400 up front. She said that the Pig racing for the Jubilee had paid for itself.

Margie Bartholomew suggested holding a jumble sale but acknowledged that would need a lot of organising whilst being worth a try. The Young Farmers said that they would help with that.

5. Election of Committee. Nominations

The current committee all agreed to stand again although Jenna stressed that she did not want to be Chairperson. Peter Ward agreed to be elected onto the Committee. The assembled people were all in agreement.

6. Discuss future charges for hire of the hall.

A report had been made available outlining future charges for the Village Hall – this has been the first increase since 2018. In essence, the increase in charge for regular users is minimal.

This will be monitored to see how it affects future bookings.

A Bar facility has been secured by courtesy of the Swan PH at a cost of £200 plus the cost of drinks. This would need to be requested when booking the hall.

A “Wedding Package” charge needs to be agreed.

7. Date of next committee meeting. 21 November 2022 7pm

A.O.B.

Brian Adams explained that he was the Trustee and Treasurer of all the village charities.

He said that an Application for Grant Aid had been included in the R & A as a newsletter.

However, things were getting difficult as last year applications exceeded income.

He said that the School House had had tenants for 40 years and had needed a lot of work.

However, that has now been sold but there are some issues with boundaries currently stopping the sale from going through. Funds from the sale will be invested to help the issue regarding Grant Appeals.

He noted that the threat to the current Village Hall appears to have receded but has not gone totally away although the Parish Council are not now pushing as hard.

The situation is now changing as grants are becoming more difficult to obtain.

The current land on which the VH stands was donated years ago and now belongs to the Lawshall Trust who are happy for committees to keep running the Hall. If there is to be a new Hall, the current land will be sold.

Brian explained that the reason the Village Plan was so successful was they had got a lot of people to attend. There is a further meeting on 15 October for the revised Plan to be on view from 11am-4pm. He asked for all present to come along.

Lawshall Trust were thanked for supporting all the village.

Decisions

1. The increased Hall charges will be monitored and a Wedding Package will be agreed.
2. A Contractor still to be identified to repair the roof gulley lining.
3. Consideration will be given to holding a Race Night Meeting.

4. Consideration to be given to charging future Craft Stalls 10% of takings rather than a set table charge.
5. It was agreed that John Parker should continue to audit the accounts.