

Wadenhoe Recreational Village Hall Committee AGM 2nd October 2020

Chair: Catherine Belton.

Present: Bruce Wallace, Karen Wallace, Christina Locke, Justin Clarke, Anthony Hotson, Louann Hotson, Jean Ray, Nicola Guise, Doug Northwood, Stephen Hall, Craig McDougall, Frances McDougall, Julian King, Dave Phillips, Sylvia Neal, Jane Woodbridge, Sue Groom, Jan Lea, Catherine Burbage, Alasdair Belton, Carew Treffgarne.

Apologies: Mark Petty.

Observers: Brenda Wardiell, Karen Pollock.

1. Chairperson's Introduction

The Chair summarised the steps that have been taken in order to comply with current COVID 19 regulations. A risk assessment has been done for the re - opening of the Hall, and another one for this evening's meeting. A '*track & trace*' register had been completed on entry. People were seated in '*bubbles*' of 6, and were asked to kindly remain seated during the meeting. A one - way system had been established for entering and leaving the Hall, with 2m distance to be respected at all times. People were told not to move chairs and not to mingle or congregate outside afterwards. Windows and doors were kept open throughout.

In her introduction, Catherine Belton welcomed the unusually good attendance at the meeting. She commented that historically numbers of committee members have tended to be low. She could not recall any time in her experience of living in Wadenhoe when there has had to be elections like this time. This is because the number of candidates has exceeded the number of places, as stipulated by the Trust Deed Document. She hoped that a robust and enthusiastic committee would be formed that would operate in compliance with the Trust Deed Document, Charity Law and Insurance Regulations. She reminded the meeting that ACRE is available to help interpret the governing document of the Village Hall.

2. Treasurer's Report

Alasdair Belton said that there was nothing he could say with regard to spending over the past year as he had not been involved in this (having only become Treasurer in August). He could however give the current balances in the Village Hall accounts. There is £15,949.30 in the TSB Current Account and £22,346.12 invested in Government Bonds. One of these bonds is due to come to fruition in 2021. There is £155.87 available in cash.

He pointed out that there would be little or no income this year due to the restrictions on social and leisure activities. He was concerned that there would be a significant drop of income in future, because a yoga teacher, who had been a significant source

of income, has found other ways of holding sessions during lockdown. The new Committee would therefore need to find new, imaginative ways of raising income.

3. Election Process for Trustees/Village Hall Committee Members

Catherine Belton explained the voting process. Anyone is eligible to stand who lives in the '*area of benefit*' of the Village Hall, meaning any inhabitant of Wadenhoe, Pilton, Achurch, Lilford/Wigsthorpe and Stoke Doyle over the age of 18. The maximum number of Committee Members is **14**, comprised of 1 representative appointed by the combined Parochial Church Councils of Pilton, Achurch, Stoke Doyle and Wadenhoe, **1** from each of the **4** surrounding villages, and **6** from Wadenhoe. Up to **4** people can be co-opted at the next meeting of the new committee within the total of **14**.

The first stage entailed no contested election. The meeting was informed that Craig McDougall had been nominated by the Parochial Church Councils of Pilton, Wadenhoe, Achurch and Stoke Doyle to be their PCC representative.

The Chair then invited candidates from the surrounding villages to each say how they would contribute the Village Hall activities. Jan Lea (Stoke Doyle), Frances McDougall (Pilton) and Catherine Burbage (Achurch) were duly elected unopposed. There was no candidate from Lilford/Wigsthorpe.

The second stage required ballot papers for the election because there were **8** candidates for the **6** places allocated for Wadenhoe residents. These were circulated to all **22** people present eligible to vote, and each candidate was invited to say a few words about how they hoped to contribute to Village Hall activities and events. In the absence of Mark Petty, Stephen Hall introduced his candidature.

Carew Treffgarne (Teller) collected the ballot papers and read out the votes for each candidate, which Catherine Burbage recorded on a white board. The following residents of Wadenhoe were elected as Trustees/Committee Members: - Jane Woodbridge, Sylvia Neal, Christina Locke, Sue Groom, Nicola Guise. Mark Petty and Alasdair Belton had the same number of votes cast, but Alasdair decided that he would stand down in favour of Mark in order to be co-opted at a later date.

The AGM then adjourned for the new committee members to elect Village Hall officials.