

Minutes of AGM of Tunstead Village Hall & Recreation Ground Committee

Held 9th April, 7pm in Portakabin.

Present: Wendy Atkins, Paul Badger, Sue Badger, Gordon Gilding, Derek Kirk, Andy Rowe, Abi Rudd, John Warren, Arnie Williamson. 11 members of the public.

1. **Minutes** of the 2012 AGM were read, agreed and signed.

2. **Chairman's report:** Many changes have happened over the past few months with fund-raising and activities initiated; thanks to committee members, old and new, for their commitment to the cause. *(A full transcript can be found under the attachment Chairman's Report.)*

3. **Secretary's report:** Details of the various secretary-related tasks were listed, including advertising, liaising, preparing meetings, distributing minutes, posters, leaflets etc, bid-writing for playground equipment. *(A full transcript can be found under the attachment Secretary's Report.)*

4. **Treasurer's report:** Income for the year was £4381.55. Expenditure was £3080.39. Profit = £1298.16. Excluding the capital expenditure of £1650.00 to repair the portakabin roof, the profit on activities = £2948.16. Full amount held by the Committee = £17,851.61. *(A detailed account can be found under the attachment Treasurer's Report.)*

5. **Report on the Playground Equipment:** 4 successful bids (with 1 still pending) have resulted in some playground equipment being purchased and installed on the field, with more on order. *(A full transcript can be found under the attachment Playground Equipment.)*

6. Reports from Activity Organisers:

a) Regular events:

1. Zumba and dance: no report submitted.

2. Quiz nights: Four quizzes held with attendances of 40, 20, (in School Hall)63 and 29 (held in The Olive Branch). Money raised £214. The Olive Branch is a more pleasant location. A problem with sound and food delivery in the 3rd Quiz night probably affected the numbers in the 4th. Problems are being addressed. (Andy Rowe)

3. Games Night: Games night started in December. So far there have been 4, with numbers varying from 2 to 10. Scrabble, cribbage and various card games have been enjoyed. Next one is next Tuesday (16th) in The Olive Branch. (Paul Badger)

4. Bingo: Numbers vary from 10 – 15, though greatest support comes from one large family. (Wendy Atkins)

5. Gardening Club: 9 permanent members enjoy informal meetings once a month to talk about seeds and plants and share ideas. (Arnie Williamson)

6. Computer/Photography & Art: Computers: Jamie Nickerson has regularly held computer classes in The Olive Branch (the school was not supportive, inasmuch as we were not allowed to connect to their internet router, and their own laptops were archaic). The numbers have never been high, and may not be sustainable for much longer. Photography: John Harris held 2 group sessions on photography at his studio, but the majority of the students came from outside of the village. Art: After several attempts to get students involved with an art class with Les Lucas, we finally called it a day. The main reason for not signing up, quoted by the people who had initially expressed an

interest, was the price, though I personally think that £2.50 an hour for the services of a highly qualified artist is not exactly extortionate. (Sue Badger)

b. Special Events:

1. Yard Sale: First one was successful, with 21 stalls around the main part of the village. This year it is hoped that more will take part. People living outside of the main area might like to team up with someone along Market Street. (John Warren)

2. Art & Craft weekend: This event was held over the weekend of December 15th & 16th. 9 stall holders attended, and 9 local artists displayed their work. Local people made cakes; the majority of the Parish Council gave support for some of the time. However, support from the village was meagre, with most stall holders barely covering their cost for the weekend. (Sue Badger)

3. Race Night: Unfortunately this event was rained off. It is hoped to run this event later if a suitable venue can be found. (Wendy Atkins)

7. To discuss the proposal to amend the Constitution/Aims, which presently states: “The aims of the Committee shall be to maintain enhance beautify repair and keep the Tunstead Playing Field and to maintain repair and enhance any temporary structure acting as a Village Hall and to raise funds for the building of a permanent structure to act as a village hall for the village of Tunstead in the county of Norfolk.” It is proposed that the clause underlined be removed.

Paul Badger, as proposer, outlined the difficulties, as he saw it, for Tunstead to ever raise enough capital, both in fund-raising and in winning grants, for a Hall to be built. He also questioned whether there was anyone currently on the Committee who had the vast amount of time and expertise required in orchestrating the fund-raising and construction. Lastly he suggested that Tunstead community was too apathetic to support fund-raising activities and projected an ‘ordeal of Sisyphus’ in maintaining and sustaining such a building.

Everyone (committee and public) were invited to comment. Many were unhappy with Paul’s comparison to Neatishead, claiming that it was unfair, because they had 3 parishes (Neatishead, Irstead and Barton Turf) and we only had one. (Quite so.) Abi suggested there were other avenues to explore, such as the village house-building under the new Localism Act, whereby the Council would be awarded money for producing land for housing. A smaller hall could be designed. Gordon suggested a wooden build rather than a brick build might be cheaper. He also thought that we hadn’t given ourselves enough time (though to be fair, the committee was set up in 1996.) Both Arnie and John floated the idea of purchasing an additional Portakabin which would be even cheaper.

Andy suggested that the lethargic commitment of the community was epitomised by the numbers attending the meeting (fewer than 2%). Ian remarked that before you get a village hall, you need a village. Terry observed that in order for classes in a hall to be lucrative, you need a wide base of people – you can’t rely on the same few to visit classes nightly. Joey Page suggested that younger people ought to get involved – no dispute there! Derek commented that any activity would need to draw on the wider community, not rely solely on Tunstead. It was pointed out that there were already several halls in the near

vicinity: Ashmanhaugh, Neatishead, Smallburgh, Hoveton, Scottow (rugby club) and Coltishall, which would be in direct 'competition'.

Paul concluded by suggesting that whoever voted for the Hall should be committed to get involved in its fund-raising, planning, bid-writing and running of activities.

The public vote (not binding) was taken, with 3 supporting the motion, 7 against and 1 abstention.

The committee vote (binding) was taken, with 5 supporting the motion, 3 against and 1 abstention. The motion to remove the clause from the Constitution Aims was carried.

8. Election of Officers:

Chairman: Paul Badger

Vice Chairman: Andy Rowe

Treasurer: Wendy Atkins

Secretary: Sue Badger

The meeting closed at 8.35