

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting Held at 7.30pm on February 12th 2014

Present: Andy Morgan, Tony Lyle, Gail Allen, Geoff Allen, Alan Purchase, Pat Wood, Margaret Pearse, Jill Clarke, John Jevans, Val Jevans

There were no apologies for absence

Members of the public attending: Gill Boyce (WI, Church, PC, Badminton), John Yeoman (PC), Pat Barlow (KATS), Debi and Graham Kerslake

1. The Minutes of last year's AGM were circulated and agreed.

2. Reports:

Chairman's Report – Andy Morgan

The Chairman wished to give his thanks to the committee for their hard work during the year and appreciated the active part that had been taken. He also appreciated the greater involvement with the Parish Council and felt that MVH & PFA and the PC were working much closer together now. MVH & PFA have had a great deal of expenditure over the year with many more projects to undertake and the Chairman felt that this was now a time for consolidation. Necessary repairs should be done as funding permits and more fundraising should be undertaken. There is a problem with the roof and this will need to be addressed at some point. Currently there is insufficient money to totally resolve the problem so that funding opportunities should be sought. The recent bad weather has affected it quite badly. The Village Fete & Fireworks were both successful events and the Chairman wished to thank those involved – particularly those who are not committee members. The Lease for the Gas Governor Cabinet has put welcome funds into the pot. There are a number of ongoing projects – replacement Hall Chairs and a new PA system for Hall (which will make a big difference for those functions needing this facility). The Chairman expressed his thanks to Nick Tee who has given of his time and loaned his equipment over the past year.

Treasurer' Report – Alan Purchase

Overall revenue is up from £33237 for 2012 to £37109 for 2013. However this figure includes a one-off receipt of £7900 from Wales & West. Taking this into account the turnover is down by £4028. The major reason for this is the amount of fund raising carried out in 2012 for the play area.

Hall & Annex hire are up by £302 from £17138 to £17620. This only constitutes around 50% of annual turnover and demonstrates the importance of other income sources.

The overall surplus for the year stripping out the exceptional items of Wales & West and the refurbishment of the toilets is £4797. It should be pointed out that whilst the receipt from the lease to Wales & West is strictly a one off occurrence, large maintenance issues will occur on a regular basis. Without the wayleave funds there would have been a deficit of £1660.

There are a number of issues that will need to be addressed in the not too distant future and each of these is costed in the range of £4-6k. This is then the level of surplus that should be the annual target.

Current assets minus current liabilities at the end of the year were £27980 of which £4666 is ring fenced for the wood maintenance, leaving a nett of £23314.

Pat Barlow (KATS) queried the meaning of Wayleave and was informed that this referred to the Lease granted to Wales & West.

Secretary's Report – Gail Allen

The Spring of 2013 was the culmination of work on an unwanted area of land (once part of the bund at the entrance of the Cycle Track). Thanks to those helpers who came forward we managed to have a wonderful display of wildflowers over the Summer (some of which are still flowering now!).

During May 2013 we were approached by Wales & West who wished to site a new Gas Governor Cabinet on our land and after much discussion a suitable position was found. Then followed the legal process to establish a 25 year lease for this site. During this time it was discovered that a chevron of land across the MVH land near to the corner of Collaton Road and Salcombe Road belongs to Devon CC and we are now in the process of endeavouring to have this area transferred back to MVH. Devon CC have confirmed that they will pay the legal fees for this transfer but that MVH & PFA will have to pay the Surveyor's Fees of £250 (could be more, could be less). MVH & PFA have also asked if a rooted Christmas Tree could be planted on what is Devon CC land. A response is awaited from the Highway Team.

The final phase of the Play Area installation was completed late May 2013 and has been much enjoyed by all. Our thanks to Debbie Ede, John Yeoman, Jan and John Butler and all of those who had involvement in fundraising for the Play Area. Thanks also go to Jonathan Hawtin of Malborough Garden Services for ensuring that the grass is maintained to a very high standard.

The Village Fete held in June 2013 was very successful with many local organisations and villagers taking part. Funds were raised not only for MVH & PFA but also other village organisations. 2014 will see a repeat of the very popular Scarecrow Trail (previously held in Jubilee Year). Representatives from the Parish Council, Malborough Church and Malborough Village Hall & Playing Fields Association are all working together to run this event which will be over the Bank Holiday Weekend in May – 24th, 25th and 26th May.

An Online Calendar suitable for Village Halls has been purchased and this will be run by Val Jevans. This will show Hall availability for those who have internet access and make bookings direct. Of course it will still be possible to book the Hall by phone too.

The overgrown trees surrounding the Tennis Courts have been removed to prevent further damage to the tennis court netting. Our thanks to Jonathan Hawtin and his team who also removed all of the spoil. The stumps have also been cut down below ground level – our thanks to Steve Fascione for this. We were fortunate to be able to secure funding for this from Fields in Trust for which we are currently awaiting reimbursement.

Annual subscriptions are now offered at £40 plus £10 key deposit for the use of the tennis courts. There are already a number of members who have taken this up and more have expressed an interest.

The opening between Cumber Close and the Playing Fields will be closed on Friday February 14th. The members of SVRA have been informed and the reason for this 24 hour closure explained.

Facilities/Maintenance Report – Geoff Allen

Litter

A weekly attempt is made to keep the Hall Car Park, Play Area, Village Hall Grounds and Playing Fields free of litter. The Public Car Park, Recycle Bins and Approach Road are theoretically the responsibility of SHDC!

Jubilee Play Area

It is the responsibility of MVH & PFA to action any maintenance problems and to react to any relevant issues noted in the 6-monthly Insurance Reports. Malborough Parish Council kindly pays for any necessary materials or external work.

Hall & Annexe Maintenance

The Hall was originally built in 1975 and after nearly 40 years of continuous use there is a steady stream – if not flood - of maintenance, repairs and refurbishment issues. Those addressed in the past year include:

- Replacement of horizontal 'venetian' blinds with vertical 'slatted blinds', which are proving to be more resilient to everyday use by Hirers. (This project took some 2 years to complete)
- Negotiating with Devon CC to replace the fencing alongside the Play Area
- Replacement of the Kitchen ceiling after rainwater leaks
- A much needed major refurbishment of the Gentleman's Toilets
- Resolving rain water leaks into the Annexe
- Arranging for the suspended ceiling in the main Hall to be reinstated after partial collapse during the Monster Mash weekend
- Replacement of the "Key Box" held by Mrs Wood
- Marking out of the Car Park to ensure efficient use and maximise parking capacity
- Installation of mixer valves in the Ladies Toilet to prevent water scalding
- Provision of Hooks around the inside of the Hall for decorations – hopefully dissuading persons unknown damaging the walls with tacks and sticky tape!
- A host of minor internal repairs too numerous to list

At the present time, there are severe rain water leaks in the Main Hall Roof (caused by the age deterioration of the roofing felt under the tiles and gale force SW winds with driving rain). We are advised that whilst short term measures can be taken, which will possibly reduce the leaks, ultimately we need to re-roof the Hall at a cost of c. £20,000.

Relatively minor projects currently planned include the plastic facing of the Annexe fascias and resolution of the water pooling by the NW Annexe Fire Doors.

In the recent stormy weather large branches have broken off the conifers bordering the Collaton Road. The removal of these will take place in the next few days.

Sports Report – John Jevans

The Playing Fields have been well used except for during the recent poor weather. It has been proved difficult to ensure the grass was cut using the gang mower and it is hoped that this issue will be addressed during the forthcoming year by the purchase of a new mower or by contracting the work out when conditions require. The goal mouths have sunk and need attention. There was a safety issue when a cricket ball was hit into play area. Warning notices were erected after that time. John Jevans is meeting with Moonrakers to minimise the problem – perhaps the use of boards when artificial strip is in use?

Wood Report – Tony Lyle

Of the two benches intended for the Wood, one of them has now been secured with a second one being allowed to remain alongside the Wheels Park. There is a third bench on order which should arrive in the Spring. There is a problem with dog control in the area with dog walkers accessing it from Cumber.

The trees planted by Malborough School have become overgrown. Tony Lyle has had a quote from one contractor to spot spray at a cost of £250 and a second quote is awaited.

According to advice taken, some of the whips need to be thinned out over the next year. With a healthy bank balance in the Wood Account there is sufficient funding to cover these costs.

3. Open Forum

John Yeoman (PC) wished to thank Geoff Allen for his help in litter removal, dealing with bottle bank issues and help with the maintenance of the play area.

Tony Lyle brought to the meeting's attention the fact that there is a Neighbourhood Plan in process which is necessary for future of the village. MVH & PFA are part of the village and should be involved in meetings. It would be good to see as much involvement as possible to protect the future of Malborough.

Gill Boyce (WI) asked if the new PA system would be available for the WI event in May. AM to check with Nick Tee on his timings.

Tony Lyle noted that there is planned expenditure in coming year but it was also necessary to undertake work on the trees bordering Collaton Road before any damage to cars etc occurs.

Andy Morgan pointed out that Pat Wood was stepping down as Booking Officer at this AGM after many years of service. John Yeoman presented to Mrs Wood an engraved vase and bouquet to thank her for her service and long association with MVH & PFA as one of the original group, together with her Husband, who raised funds and built the Hall.

4. Nominations for Committee

The existing Committee was re-elected. John Yeoman Proposed and Gill Boyce seconded

Debi Kerslake was voted onto the Committee. Tony Lyle proposed, Geoff Allen seconded

Val Jevans (who had been co-opted onto the Committee in 2012) was voted onto the Committee. Gill Boyce proposed, Margaret Pearse seconded

The AGM closed 8.05 pm and was followed by a meeting of the new committee.