

**Minutes of Cusop Village Hall Annual General Meeting  
held at the village hall on 18th December 2024**

The meeting opened at 7.00pm

**Present:**

Trustees: Phil Gilbert, Jim Wesley, Katja Jones, Kate Hainge

Public: John & Penny Winter, Sue and John levers, Richard Jones, Mark Hainge, Caroline Hafner, Nigel Steward (Hay Camera Club), Celia Cundale, Alan Heeks

1. Apologies: Alison Matthews (Trustee), Laurence Matthews, Joan Jones, Trish & Alan Kiddle, Howard Jones, Margaret Wesley

2. Minutes of last AGM (4 Aug 2024): Agreed as correct.

3. Chairman's Report:

The financial year for the hall ends on 31st August and it has been difficult to choose a good time to hold the AGM. We tried leaving it until the following summer and encourage attendance with an accompanying BBQ but that seems too late. This year we have enticed you with the promise of mulled wine and mince pies and we will keep the BBQ as a separate event next summer.

The year to the end of August 2024 has been quite successful, we have gained some new regular bookings, and the income has been at a level that covered running costs so we have not had to increase the hire charges. However, that may not be the case for long, costs are rising continually and we haven't increased our charges since 2017. I will go into detail about the figures later (when I have got my 'hall bookings' hat on) but it is the regular bookings which enable us to keep the charges so low, and although there is a school of thought that regular bookings make it difficult for 'one-off' bookings to be made, their overall contribution can't be ignored.

Progress has been made with outstanding works but, of course, as with all buildings, maintenance is a continuing problem, as is the inability to be able to get tradespeople to attend. The walls are being repaired and repainted in February, so that it doesn't look shabby.

The lighting is still under review, inside and out. New lights have been installed alongside the footpath in the carpark and we are investigating a similar installation in Lower Mead.

Gwernyfed Walled Garden have done a good job of cutting the grass, pruning the trees and trimming the hedge. Please remember that the fruit is available for parishioners, so help yourselves.

Thank you to David Jones accountants for examining and endorsing the accounts. Thank you to the trustees who make up the management committee; Alison, Kate (secretary), Katja (treasurer) and Phil. We are all hoping that you will re-elect the committee for a further term.

4. Treasurer's Report. Katja Jones presented the Treasurer's Report. The hall had made a loss of £1686 in the last financial period.

Balance at Yorkshire Building Society £12306

Balance at Barclays Bank. £ 1273

5. Bookings Secretary Report:

23/24 Bookings:

Mornings 113, afternoons 191, evenings 176

Overall % occupancy 43.84%

Income from Hall hire, table tennis and donations £6599.70

6. Secretary's Report:

The village hall is a registered charity so the actions of the trustees are governed by Charity law and the rules laid down in our governing document, which is a deed of trust last amended in 2009. Our activities and spending must align with our charitable objects, which are to provide: A village hall for the use of the inhabitants of the parish of Cusop and surrounding area without distinction of sex, sexual orientation, age, disability, nationality, race or political religious or other opinions, including use of the property for meetings, lectures and classes or other forms of recreation and leisure time occupations in the interests of social welfare and with the object of improving the conditions of life for the said inhabitants.

We submitted our return for 2022/23 to the Charity Commission on 1 June 2024 and the return for the period we are reporting to you now (2023/24) will be submitted after this meeting. We are not required to submit our accounts or a Trustees' Report because our annual income is under £10k.

This year we have renewed our insurance for another 3 year period. There are a limited number of underwriters that cover village halls and we have decided to stick with Towergate.

At the moment two trustees or their close relatives are paid for services that they provide to the Village Hall. Katja Jones is paid for caretaking services and Margaret Wesley receives a stipend for Bookings. This is permitted by our governing document and subject to annual review.

7. Election of the Management Committee.

John Levers proposed that all members of the Management Committee be re-elected. Seconded by Celia Cundale. Agreed unanimously.

The meeting closed at 8pm.