



MINUTES OF PATTINGHAM AND PATSHULL PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 17th April 2023 AT PATTINGHAM VILLAGE HALL

Present: Councillors: R Lines (Chairman), D Billson (Vice Chairman), T Mason, M Finch, A Freeman, L Billingham, , Mrs A Davies, J Tomlinson, N Hill, N Land and County Councillor J Abrahams.

Members of the public present: Julie Wood and Sharon Simmons (left after giving their report).

1. Apologies for Absence
An apology of absence was received from Cllr A Turner.
2. Minutes of the previous meetings held on the 25th April 2022
The minutes of the meeting held on the 25th April 2022 were agreed as an accurate and true record of that meeting.
3. To discuss any matters arising from the previous Annual Parish Meeting of the 25th April 2022
None were reported.
4. Report of the Chairman

Chairman's Annual Parish Meeting Report 2023

As we emerged from the shadow of coronavirus a new cloud in the form of Russian aggression in Ukraine has created an energy crisis and food inflation. As well as impacting everyone with the cost of living crisis, it has seen us have to provide grant assistance to the village hall committee to deal with a considerable operational deficit. On a slightly more positive note we are participating as a joint funder on a carbon reduction project to install solar panels on the village hall. The main grant is from Enovert and will hopefully help the village hall secure some of its future energy needs.

Additional grants were given to the Brownies and The Over 65's Christmas Lunch. We match-funded a defibrillator for Pattingham Club and have provided support for Who's for Lunch? - ensuring it continues this valuable monthly social event.

We replaced some of the perimeter fence around the recreation ground at Burnhill Green and finally got the village gateway markers installed on Burnhill Green Road.

Outdoor adult gym equipment was installed on Pattingham Playing Fields, co-funded by some proceeds from the previous scarecrow festival. The play park had the path resurfaced with a resin bound surface and the skate park has a fence on its northern boundary.

Public open space at Windsor Road is now an Asset of Community Value and was used to celebrate the occasion of Queen Elizabeth II's platinum jubilee. The Parish Council helped support a programme of events during the platinum jubilee celebrations and we are repeating that support for the forthcoming King Charles III Coronation.

Finally, I would like to thank all councillors for their service over the last 4 years, and in particular those standing down after serving two full terms. It is also goodbye from me.

All the best for the future.

Rob Lines
Chairman 2022 - 2023.

5. Parish Reports

Pattingham & Patshull Over 65 Christmas Lunch

Report to Annual Parish Meeting April 2023

The Annual Christmas Lunch was held on 8th December 2022 at Pattingham Village Hall. It is open to all residents of Pattingham & Patshull who are 65 and older.

79 residents sat down to the meal, which was excellent, with it being the 1st meal following Covid. The meal was provided by Plyvine. We used the format from the previous event, with the meal being served and then the children came over and led the singing. We felt the meal flowed much better this way. The Guinness Book of Records was presented to the school as a thank you for their hard work.

The Raffle made £304, which nearly covered the cost of the drinks and hire of the hall. It was agreed at a previous meeting that no gifts would be sent to sick or housebound people who could not attend the meal.

We received £2,500 Grant from the Parish Council.

At 31st March 2023 we have £11478.04 in the Santander accounts (of which as you know £5000.00 is in trust).

It has cost £2,172.71 to put the meal on.

The Committee is very grateful to the Council, as we could not put this event on without your help.

The Annual Return for the Charity Commission will be sent.

Julie Wood and Sharon Simmons

County Cllr J Abrahams said he is looking to put a lunch for the lonely and elderly like he has started for Perton, in Pattingham. It was suggested he contacts who's for lunch as they run a similar event.

Report by Pattingham Village Hall Management Committee 2023

Pattingham Village Hall is an independent, charitably owned facility run by a management committee made up principally of volunteers. There is a Hall Manager (Anna Davies) and a Booking Clerk (Sharon Simmons) who also acts as Secretary at the Management Committee meetings.

Last year we reported that despite increases in our oil, electricity and waste disposal costs, a combination of tight financial management, and more significantly, Government grants due to the COVID-19 pandemic, had enabled us to remain financially sound, and keep our rental charges competitive for the benefit of the village organisations and families that use the Hall. However, as with many similar facilities across the country, the costs detailed above have continued to rise throughout the year to a point where we have had to make some modest increases in charges to offset those costs. In addition, the Parish Council has very generously helped us by making us a grant which is resolving some of the budgetary difficulties caused by the raising costs of maintaining the Hall. We are very grateful to the Parish Council for the assistance they have been able to give us.

Whilst Hall utilisation has increased steadily since the pandemic the Management Committee has recognised the need to continue our efforts in fundraising to meet our rising costs. There have been several fundraising events this year with more planned. We also have a plan to develop a marketing strategy to introduce our facilities to a wider audience as there are spaces in our weekly schedule that could be filled by more income generating activities.

We have also been looking at ways in which we can raise money for special projects. Last year we reported that we had a generous donation from the James Beattie Charitable Trust that enabled us to buy a commercial dishwasher. This followed the receipt of a grant from the National Lottery to refurbish the kitchen. This year we are focussing on our use of energy and the impact the Hall has on the environment. Consequently, we have secured a very significant grant from an environmental charitable trust to install solar panels on our roof and to improve the insulation of the building. One of the requirements of the grant was that it should be match funded and the Parish Council has extremely generously agreed to provide that match which amounts to ten percent of the overall grant. Again, we are very grateful for this intervention. The completion of the project will be an important step towards our ambition for the Hall to be self-sufficient in energy.

As noted last year, the Management Committee have taken responsibility for the CCTV equipment in our building and thank the Parish Council for the annual grant to maintain the system.

Finally, I would like to express my thanks to the Parish Council members who are also members of our management committee for their help, support and guidance throughout the year.

Martin.J.Cartwright

Chair: Pattingham Village Hall Management Committee

The Chairman added that one of the main deficiencies the Village Hall have noticed is the loss of the in the week hiring of the hall, particularly weekdays. If anyone knows of an organisation that could use the facilities could the word be spread to any organisations.

1st Pattingham Rainbows Grant Review Parish Council Report

The newly established 1st Pattingham Rainbows held its first meeting on the 13th September 2022. We were able to open due to the support of the Parish Council and the grant we received.

The grant subsidised our census/subscription cost (£440 this year). It therefore has allowed us use parental contributions to purchase resources (and cover our overheads) to plan a fun and exciting Rainbow programme.

Our group of 10 Rainbows have, so far, enjoyed two terms of fun and activities; working towards Rainbow Skill Builder badges, traditional games, crafting, cooking, Rainbow Promise Making, Halloween and Christmas parties, an Easter visit to The Hive Arts and Crafts centre in Codsall, to name but a few!

The Rainbow group is very popular in the community and we have a waiting list of members who would love to join us. Unfortunately, we cannot currently offer more spaces as we are at capacity. During the summer term we will be driving a campaign to recruit further adult volunteer support so that our unit can continue to grow and serve the local community.

If anyone knows of any volunteers then again could the word be spread to help the organisation.

6. Matters raised by the public present None were reported.

No members of the public were present.

7. Date of next APM meeting – 24th April 2024 at 7.30pm

Meeting closed at 7.50pm