

## Extraordinary meeting of the Village Association (VA)

With the Withernwick Village Charity Trustee's (T) and Registered Friends (F) of the charity in The Falcon on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2024. Meeting started at 7:15pm and finished 8:30pm

Present :- P Boyl (VA), G Wilkinson (VA), M Soper (VA), L Graham (VA & T), Ca Wilkie (VA & T), D Dickinson (VA), Ch Wrightson (T) and M Mann (VA & T)

Apologies :- E Whittaker (VA & F), N Harvey (VA & T), E Sherman (T), J Ashton (VA) and K Brown (T)

### Minutes

1. LG as Chairperson of the Withernwick Village Charity, read out a statement outlining the transition from the Village hall Charity to the up-dated and re-named charity and it's current standing with the Charity Commission.
2. DD asked questions about the 'friends' set up and LG answered them. GW asked questions about the Poor's Land which the village charity trustees said had nothing to do with the Village charity as it was a different charity. GW asked about the trustees of the PL and what the link was, ChW explained that there was no link to the PL.
3. MS and PB agreed to become registered friends of the charity, GW was none committal asking to see a copy of the Trust Deed etc before deciding. A discussion took place and LG said that a copy would be sent to the people who had agreed to become friends as it was irrelevant to anyone else who was not involved with the charity. GW was again none committal. LG will email JA and find out what she wants to do.
4. Further discussions continued and MS proposed a merger of the VA into the WVC. The vote for a merger was carried. MS asked if the VA minutes should be transferred. LG said that this meeting minutes would go into the charity file and old VA minutes were not needed, she went onto say that she had only kept the last bank statements and Charity Commission letters for 2005 from the old village hall charity.
5. MS said that the bank may want to change the account as it was now for a charity and suggested that MS, CW and NH all went to the bank together to sort it out. LG asked if they could look into on line banking while they were there.
6. MS said the money for his replacement gazebo needs to be paid before the bank visit and he would also need about £250 or so for replacement Christmas lights.
7. The date of the light switch on was changed to Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December at 6pm. MS will put them up again with help and will also switch them on. A discussion took place regarding electricity. MM suggested contacting ERYC to plug into the street lights as Woodmancy does, MS thought it might be too late to get this organised for this year but he has a plan! CaW asked PB if he had phoned the relatives of the usual electricity source as he had previously been asked to do and he said he hadn't. LG suggested asking Charles Young at the Forrester's hall.
8. A discussion took place about equipment storage as there was various pieces of property belonging to the VA at different locations around the village. All agreed a container would be a good idea. DD suggested the strip of land the parish council owns by the side of the church yard, LG said that the council had discussed this previously and it would probably be a no from them. ChW suggested the end of the playing field but that land is designated a cemetery and theft could also be a problem. All agreed the perfect place would be the old village hall site. GW said the PL trustees gave permission for a storage container on the site during the lease negotiations, CaW explained to GW that was part of the deal with the council which had fallen through because of the investigation which the parish councillors were not allowed to discuss. LG said this could be discussed with the PL trustees at a later date.
9. LG said she had a piece ready for the parish council newsletter to go out in November but the deadline was this Friday, 25<sup>th</sup>. CaW said she wasn't happy with the words 'elderly & old' being in it. LG said she would remove it and add the merger and light switch on then send it out to everyone for approval / amendments before sending it to the Clark on Friday. LG went on to say that as a curtesy, she would inform the parish council of the village charity and send a copy of the Trust Deed as we will be sending a yearend balance sheet and Chairpersons report to the council in April. GW asked why? LG said it was for accountability, transparency and basically to let them see and hold on record, that everything was above board as this clause was in the original lease and trust deed. GW asked what lease and trust deed? LG reminded him that he already had a copy of the original Lease and Trust Deed for the village hall.
10. Christmas dinner was discussed and booked under Carols name for Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December at 7pm.
11. Date of next meeting TBA in January to plan all of the 2025 events

Footnote :- As GW was leaving, LG asked him again if he was in or out as a friend of the charity and again he said he wanted to see the Trust Deed first, LG interpreted his none committal as a no. Witnessed by PB, MM, CaW & ChW.