

Kirkby Malzeard Mechanics Institute Village Hall

Annual General Meeting 7th February 2022

Minutes

Present: J Collins, P Cookson, P Robson, M Constantine, J Johnson, J Tattersal, M Tattersal, M Smith, Rick Hill, Anni Hill, B Pool, Mary Crawshaw – Ralli, I Frazer, J Heap, A Workman, M Workman, V Smith

- 1. Apologies for Absence:** G Mass and P Collins
- 2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting 2021:** Read and accepted as a true record
Proposed - M Constantine, Seconded - M Smith
- 3. Matters Arising:** No matters arising
- 4. Chairs Report to members:** In Gerry Mass's absence due to illness, J Collins prepared a report on Gerry's behalf and read it out to the meeting (copy attached). P Cookson added thanks on behalf of the committee to John for all his hard work over the year.
- 5. Annual Statement of Audited Accounts:** Mike Smith circulated the accounts kindly audited by Brain Pool. There were no questions on the details and therefore proposed as a true record by P Cookson and seconded by M Constantine.
Jonathan Heap highlighted the benefits of "Easy Fundraising" (an organisation that gives a percentage of income to charity from shopping transactions). The total amount raised to date is £211 (of which £60 is pending). Jonathan agreed to re-circulate the leaflets to inform anyone who was not aware of this method of fundraising.
- 6. Changes to the Constitution:** J Collins referred to the last AGM and confirmed the committee intends to update the constitution in line with current requirements and legislation. The existing constitution dates back 1890 and is the only registered document despite attempts to update it in 2002 (the Charities Commission lost their copy of the signed document and have refused to accept its existence).
John referred to his three emails dated 18 and 27 January 2022 which attached various advice notes from Yorkshire First and the National Council for Voluntary Organisations to highlight potential issues and offer solutions/opportunities for future governance.
At present the Mechanic's is defined as an "unincorporated charity" which implies that individual trustees have contractual responsibilities with unlimited personal liability.
The intention is to transfer the Mechanics into an "incorporated charity" which contracts by organisation with limited liability on behalf of the community.
John is keen to commence a review of the existing constitution and amend it with the help of a legal adviser to ensure that the intent of the existing document is maintained but modernised to reflect the current situation.

It needs to be noted that existing committee members are insured however the changes will remove any doubts or concerns. This situation is prevalent in the vast majority of Village Hall charities so in some respects we will be one of the first to act. John would also like the Mechanics to modernise the whole management process to ensure that the Mechanics is more efficient and fit to prosper into the future.

- 7. Election of Officers:** The following members were elected
Nominations as new Trustees: Bryan Pool and Mary Crawshaw-Ralli were nominated at the meeting and Janice Atwood was put forward in her absence as willing to stand. Their nominations were unanimously accepted by the Committee.
Paul Johnson has confirmed in writing that he does not wish to continue as a Trustee.

2022 Officers:-

Chair – John Collins
Secretary – Paul Cookson (Mary Crawshaw-Ralli in supporting role)
Treasurer – Bryan Pool
Bookings Secretary – M Johnson.

8. **A.O.B.** – The Chair thanked all those present for their attendance and stated that those non-Trustee members present were welcome to stay for the ordinary monthly meeting of the Trustees which follows.
9. **Date and Time of Next AGM 2023** - Wednesday 1 February 2023 7pm.