



Minutes of Annual General Meeting 2012

Date: 26th September 2012

Attendees: **Committee Members**

Stuart Ashcroft
Basil Stokes
Dave Sweatman
Jo Mould
Jo Ward
Claudine McFaul
Bill Halkett
Jo Jones
Malcolm White

Council Members:

Councillor Ian Bell.
Councillor Helen Fairhurst.
Councillor May Blake.

Other Attendees:

Joan Halkett
Catherine Greenhall
Brenda Stokes
Barbara Brown
Alan McCabe

Apologies: County Councillor
David Westerly
Councillors
Brian McGucken
Gary Ward

Documents Distributed at Meeting:

1. AGM Agenda
2. Statement of Accounts 2012
3. Minutes of 2011 AGM

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- 1. Minutes from previous AGM were formally accepted subject to a slight amendment of item 4 which should read: 2010/2011.**

Proposed Bill Halkett Seconded: Jo Ward

- 2. Chairman's Report 2012: Stuart Ashcroft**

The Chairman stated that 2012 had proved to be a very successful year for the H.C.A and that this was in no small part due to the ongoing work of the current Committee Members ,a number of successful events organised jointly with Hilldale Parish Council and the fantastic support of the Community.

The Hilldale Diamond Jubilee Celebration Weekend took place from Friday June 1st to Sunday, June 4th 2012 and included the following events.

Lancashire Night-Friday

Mark Dowding and Sid treated us to Lancashire songs and poems and everyone enjoyed the night singing along to popular war songs. Hot pot and Apple Pie/Cream also helped in providing a fantastic start to our Jubilee Weekend

Hilldale Gala – Saturday

The Village Gala was held on Saturday, June 2nd and was once again a resounding success .The weather was kind and the rain kept off until the Gala had finished.

There was a good turnout and we had a large crowd thanks to good advertising of the event. The Chairman thanked everyone who supported the day and all who volunteered to help with cake making donating raffle prizes or help with running a stall. Thanks also expressed to Barbara Brown for making the cakes for the cream teas.

A special thanks also expressed to our 2012 May Queen Isobelle Mould. Other events of the day included a BBQ, Dog Show, Face Painting , and an exhibition of Hilldale in past times .Film footage and a collection of photographs were displayed in the Parbold Evangelical Church Hall .Thanks go to the church for organising this event.

Many thanks also go to local business who give their support each year by donating generous raffle prizes, milk, bales of hay and other vital items.

It was also fantastic to be able to report that we were able to donate £152.42 to Queenscourt Hospice which was the total proceeds of the cake stall It is hoped that we can build on this year's success and make the 2013 event better and even more successful

Jubilee Bash

On the Saturday Night we enjoyed a fantastic night of entertainment with The Last Resort Band who provided a fabulous range of music and a good time was had by all.

£180 was raised in aid of the First Responders Charity; this is the charity that is supported by The Last Resort.

Picnic- Sunday

Unfortunately Sunday was a washout as far as the weather was concerned and we were not able to have the Picnic as planned. However, bacon and sausage butties with a cup of tea or coffee was enjoyed by those who braved the elements.

Village Hall

Thanks to the Parish Council there continues to be considerable investment in the Village Hall. The Hall is of course available for hire as is the PA system. Good use continues to be made of the stage and lighting, which of course was jointly funded by Hilldale Community Association and the Parish Council.

The IT Suite with a touch screen computer, printer and scanner is available for all to use. This year we have purchased a new dishwasher for the Village Hall Kitchen. It is also hoped that Broadband will be installed in the Village Hall which long term will be in partnership with Hilldale Parish Council.

On behalf of the H.C.A. the Chairman thanked and congratulated Hilldale Parish Council for successfully obtaining Jubilee Status for our Playing Field. This was a great achievement and means that the field will be available for future generations.

Coffee Morning

It is hoped that people will come along on the last Saturday of each month to enjoy coffee, cake or bacon roll, or to just have a chat .Anyone wishing to be involved in the Coffee Morning or wishing to donate a Homemade Cake etc or have any other ideas to help this valued event would they please contact the Committee accordingly. Thanks also to Gary and Jo Ward for their invaluable support of the Coffee Morning throughout the year

Finally, the Chairman expressed thanks to the Committee members for their hard work over the past 12 months particularly Dave Sweatman as Secretary and Basil Stokes for his work as Treasurer. Also thanks must go to May Blake who has always been a great supporter of the HCA and attends all our Village events. Thank you to the Parish Council for working closely with the HCA to improve Village Life, Alan McCabe for kindly doing the accounts each year and finally David Westerly for his support. Anyone who has been missed in this expression of thanks but has helped in any way may rest assured that such help is greatly appreciated The Chairman closed his address by thanking all those who had attended the meeting.

Stuart Ashcroft

Chairman

Hilldale Community Association Oct 2012

3. Treasurers Financial Report: - Basil Stokes HCA Treasurer

Balance 31st August 2011: £4433.59

Balance 31st August 2012: £3947.39

The Chairman thanked Alan McCabe for preparing the accounts. Seconded: Bill Halkett
Also thanks were expressed to the Secretary for preparing last year's Minutes.

The Treasurer was also thanked for preparing the Financial Report which was accepted.

Proposed: Jo Ward: Seconded: May Blake

4. Resignation and voting in of Hilldale Community Association Committee 2012/13

All members of the committee resigned. The following candidates were elected:

Chairman:	Stuart Ashcroft
Vice Chair:	Claudine McFaul
Secretary:	David Sweatman
Treasurer	Basil Stokes

Ordinary Members voted and accepted;

Malcolm White
Jo Jones
Odette Bell
Jo Mould
Bill Halkett
Jo Ward

2012/2013 Parish Council Observer:

Rotating: Brian McGucken/Helen Fairhurst/Ian Bell/Gary Ward.
Proposed: Jo Ward
Second: Basil Stokes

6. Any other business:

Ian Bell congratulated all member of the committee for their input and hard work during the last 12 months particularly with regard to the arrangements for the Jubilee celebrations. Seconded: Helen Fairhurst. May Blake commented on the good work by all concerned.

Bill Halkett commented on the problem caused by the wet grass which is left on the playing field after it has been cut. What is the position with regard to having it removed for the 2013 Gala .Helen Fairhurst stated that to do this would involve considerable expense. Ian Bell mentioned that the appointed contractor did not have the type of mower to carry out this function, however, the Parish Council would investigate the cost involve as a separate function and consider the matter further

Concern was also expressed regarding the path at the bottom of the playing field which has again been washed away. Bill Halkett has contacted United Utilities regarding the sewer which during heavy weather becomes' surcharged and overflows .Ian Bell is taking advice on drainage he also mentioned that further funding would be discussed at the next Parish Council meeting.

Helen Fairhurst asked if it was feasible to look at the possibility of a text messaging service. Jo Mould mentioned Alan McCabe's comments at our last meeting pointing out that we should be circumspect about expenditure on items which the Charity Commissioners may consider not quite within the scope of our 'raison d'etre'.

Stuart Ashcroft asked if there is any grant money left to purchase crockery. It was agreed that the grant position would be reviewed. There are certain voluntary services with whom we could register. These services would then be able to provide individuals to offer support and help at future events. Ian Bell made the observation that we should be mindful of any spare capital that we may have which the Charity Commissioners might query if we apply for further funding.

A general discussion then took place regarding making improvements to the Village Hall, Pictures/Decorations/Structural alterations to enhance the open aspect of the Hall and thus increase the number of lettings for outside use. Helen Fairhurst pointed out that we would have to convince the Parish Council of any benefit commensurate with the cost involved if funding were to be sought for any such schemes

Date of next meeting to be arranged: Dave Sweatman