

MINUTES OF GREAT WHITTINGTON VILLAGE HALL MEETING ON 28th JANUARY 2025 AT 7.30

1. Those Present. M. Bassendine, L. Gillam, B. Hinchcliffe, P. Hinchcliffe, H. Lewins, M. McKenzie, J. Wilkes, E. Young. Apologies were received from Thomas Tiffin
2. The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed as correct and signed. There were no matters arising.
3. New Trustee. H. Lewin appointed by the Parish Council was welcomed to the committee and the appropriate documentation completed.

4. Functional Reports

Past Events

Christmas Fair. Successful for another year. M.M said we needed a better way to set up tables next year. Raffle of Christmas cake made by M.M raised £105.
Bookshop Band performance was enjoyed by a large audience
National Theatre. Prima Facia was attended by 27 and was enjoyed by all.
Lindisfarne to the Lakes. An excellent talk by Steve Dickinson.
Heritage Book Launch. M. B. gave a presentation on the book which is now available for sale at £10.00 at coffee mornings or £12.50 if it is required to be posted.

Future Events.

February Coffee Morning. On 1st February. Discussion re cakes and agreed who would make them.
Highlights. Sons of Town Hall on 18th May, a music event and The Bench on 1st June, a play.
National Theatre. The Importance of Being Ernest on 21st and 22nd February and Dr. Strangelove on 28th and 29th March.
M.B had been approached by First and Last Brewery at the Christmas Fair who asked to hold a tasting event. She suggested the summer solstice.
Another talk by Steve Dickinson would be arranged in the Autumn.

Hall Hire.

L.G. reported a birthday party was booked on 15th March. Regular booking have had times and dates confirmed. Sound Bath, The last two classes have been cancelled and payment has not been made. If she does not contact the bookings for the rest of the year will be cancelled. M.M enquired about a booking by the Lady Captain of Matfen Golf and the cost was agreed to be the local rate.

Finance.

E.Y. gave a finance report including a credit from HMRC of £328. She had researched card readers and it was agreed that she should go ahead with a system.

Health and Safety.

J.W reported that the replacement fire alarm system had been completed

I.T. and Facebook.

J.W. Reported no problem in operation. An item about the heritage book would be produced by M. B. for entry by J.W.

Gardening.

Nothing to report.

Maintenance.

P.H reported the sink overflow was mended and it was agreed to put down rodenticide behind kitchen unit and upstairs.
The heat pump has been serviced on the two yearly basis.
The last soil against the back wall has been removed.
Replacement car park lights will be fitted.
It was decided to leave the new fire extinguisher in the current location

Northern Powergrid would trim the trees affecting the power line on 7th February. Following a long discussion on the revarnish of the floor it was agreed that P.H. would attempt to rectify the fault at Easter when term time classes had ceased and if it failed professional action would take place.

6. Hallmark.

P.H. reported that he and B.H had been to a seminar on hallmark at Stocksfield. J.W said stage one was basically a tick box exercise which would result in an insurance cost reduction and it was agreed to go ahead and the whole committee would be involved.

7. Solar Heating, Electricity and Emergency Hub

P.H reported that at last the smart meter would be installed on 21st February. He had approached CAN about the possibility of joining the NCC contract tariff but had not yet received a response. He had also approached Community Foundation about a grant for further batteries and had received support. He would submit an application. He explained the current position on contracts and tariffs.

The new generator had been tested and ran satisfactorily. Training would be arranged for committee members and attempts made to gain more volunteers and J.W agreed to draft an email for distribution after approval. The draft protocol was discussed which required further amendment which would be done by B.H.

8. Heritage.

M.B reported that the printing cost cost was £885 plus other expenses. She would provide a financial report. We had sold 32 and needed eventually to sell 90. Sales and expenses would be structured to gain the best legal gift aid result. Copies needed to be reserved for the British Library and NCC archive. She would prepare, with help, a package of documents to be deposited at The Archive.

9. Gigabit.

H.L reported that the P.C had heard nothing further after the meeting in January.

10. AOB.

M.B asked if anyone had any knowledge of the sale of the land behind the hall. No one had. H.L agreed to find out if the P.C had any further information.

P.H. reported that T.T had suggested we need a new door on the outside shed. All agreed this was needed and P.H and T.T would arrange it.

P.H said he would start the annual report and hoped to have a draft ready but without financial numbers for the next meeting

11. Next Meeting.

P. H suggested 25th March. M.B said she could not attend and others would check availability. If others were not available the date would be changed