

Madingley Parish Council

Annual Parish Meeting

Thursday 16th May 2024 at 6pm

Members 5
Vacancies 0

Members of the public in attendance - 7

MINUTES Annual Parish Meeting

1 To Record Apologies for Absence

Councillor Wallace-Hadrill sent apologies – work commitments.

2 To Sign and Approve Minutes of 2023 – 18th May 2023

CCS proposed, FN seconded, and it was unanimously **APPROVED** the Minutes from 18th May 2023 were a true and accurate record of the Annual Meeting. Motion carried.

Proposed CCS Seconded FN

3 To Receive Chairman's Annual Report and Financial Report for 2023/24

The Chairman summarised the Council's achievements over the last 12 months and noted the Parish Council's Annual Report is available on the Parish Council website.

4 To receive District and County Councillors' Annual Reports

District Councillor Stobart provided an Annual Report to Council. A full report from Councillor Garvie and Stobart and a report from County Councillor Atkins are available on the Parish Council website.

5 To receive Village Groups' Annual Reports

All reports received were included within the annual report.

6 Questions and Comments: members of the public

Chris Baldwin, Chairman of Madingley Village Hall, addressed the meeting on the History of Madingley Village Hall and its current position.

PART 1

1937 Village Hall built by Ambrose Harding of Madingley Hall to his own design for the use of villagers. Den Teversham, who lived in the village all his life, said: "... when the Village Hall was finished it was open every night of the week and had a library in the little room now used as the kitchen. Every game you could think of was on offer and membership was 2/6p a year ...".

1939-45 Partly used as NAAFI when Madingley was occupied by the army during WW2.

1948 The Madingley Estate including Madingley Hall, the surrounding land and most of the village, was purchased by the University of Cambridge. **The Village Hall was the social hub of Madingley.**

PART 2

1964 Charitable Trust established. The University agrees a 28-year lease of the Village Hall with the Trustees of the 'Madingley Village Hall Trust' at a rent of £1 pa. The Trust is charged with "maintaining it for the use of the inhabitants of Madingley with the object of improving the conditions of life of villagers."

1965 Sports Club set up and became the key user of the building.

1994 Deed of Transfer of the Village Hall and surrounding land from the University of Cambridge to the Trustees of the Village Hall. Re-thatching of the south side of the roof.

2000 The Hall is in urgent need of improvements and repairs in order to meet statutory regulations and the needs of the 21st century future.

PART 3

2005 Saw the dawn of a new era for the Hall. The Hall was stuck in an outdated layout and the bank account was perilously depleted. A phased development was initiated as a safe and low risk method of improving the Hall. Made possible through a series of grant applications & generous donations from local people.

Phase 1: Rewiring the Hall. External decoration was undertaken by volunteers. 70 chairs generously gifted by Madingley Hall are still in use today.

2007-9 Phase 2: French windows & an external patio area; new kitchen construction, store, and accessible toilet; ramp to side entrance; new boiler and oil tank; installation of donated Kitchen Smiths furniture; alterations to existing toilets.

2014-15 Phase 3: New suspended acoustic ceiling in the main space with insulation, heating improvements, groundworks, replacement with double glazed windows and new doors.

2019 – 22: The Pandemic causes Hall to close over many months. The village Sports Club closes down.

2021-22 Phase 4: Hall redecorated externally and the thatch on the north elevation of the main roof replaced. In all some £160,000 was spent on the Hall during these four phases of development.

2024 GOING FORWARD

The Hall has clearly served the Village well during Parts 1 and 2 but since the new Millenium the impact of social change raises questions as how we best go forward.

- There remains a demand for a community space within the village albeit on a smaller scale than before, with Parish Council & Church meetings, Polling, National Celebrations, Birthday parties and family get togethers.
- The Hall is not losing money.
- The Hall is a much-admired facility which it would be a huge shame to lose.
- The demographics of Madingley have changed considerably over recent years with a noticeable change in Hall users.
- The presence of Madingley School, once a non-fee paying village school, was a catalyst of local community activity, much of which took place in the Hall, but today this is no longer the case.
- The leisure time requirements of all of us are quite changed; the world of social media has impacted everyone's life including their requirements of public buildings.
- The ageing /demise of many villagers who supported the Hall plus the lack of a real need for the Hall for the younger residents has resulted in a changed profile of use and currently minimum available management/volunteer helpers.

The time has come to review the place of the Village Hall in our community and how it should best be managed in the light of current circumstances.

Madingley Parish Council is seen as a key voice in this assessment.

CURRENT OPERATION

Madingley Village Hall is managed by Chris Baldwin (Chairman) who is supported by John Naughton (Secretary) and Simplex Ltd (Accounts). It currently has a total of 6 Trustees.

The Hall is listed on Cambridge Acre 'Halls for Hire' website and is registered with the Charity Commission, registration 300410.

MANAGEMENT TASKS

- Face of the operation by phone and e mail.
- Bookings/contract clerk.
- Income/expenditure IT documentation. The Trustees are grateful to MPC for their support in awarding an annual grant & providing grass cutting.
- Management of the space, opening up, setting up, checking and closing down.
- Organisation of professional cleaning rota, putting the bins out and any maintenance required.

The Parish Council wished to personally thank Chris Baldwin for his dedication to the hall and its success. It was agreed Madingley Village Hall Trustees would hold a "Public Meeting" to address the Parish with ambitions to reimagine the Hall and its survival. Flyers and advertising within Madingley News was proposed.

Meeting closed at 18.36

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Chairman

Madingley Parish Council

Dated: May 2025