

Avon Valley Shed – Annual General Meeting

23 March 2022

Present: Malcolm Connolly (trustee, treasurer), Chris Dennis (trustee, membership secretary), Paul Dennis, Alan Dudley, George Farmer, Mike Fisher, Tony Fiske, Mike Jewhurst, Paul Kalsi, Gary Knight (trustee, chairman), Peter Lane, Bob McGinn, Reg Orchard, Alan Stockley, Sandy White, Steve Wyatt

Apologies: Julie Kalsi (trustee)

Chairman's Report

Gary welcomed members, and talked about the success of the Shed so far – as both a place to do things as well as for socialising.

At a recent meeting with representatives of the church, various options were discussed regarding the use that the Shed can make of the church hall and the space around it. Fordingbridge Local Church Council have come back to us saying that we can continue as we are, using the hall for booked (and paid for) sessions and storing some tools and materials, but no more than that.

Gary particularly thanked:

- the trustees for their hard work;
- the volunteers providing teas, coffees, and bacon rolls;
- Tool Aid Ringwood for providing many of our tools;
- Paul Dennis as project manager;
- everyone who has come along to the workshop and social sessions, making them fun as well as rewarding: it is good to see friendships developing.

Treasurer's Report

Malcolm reported that the Shed started the financial year with £167 and ended it (to 28 February) with about £400. The main income has been membership fees and donations for refreshments.

Using the church hall will cost £27 per week – about £1300 per year. Liability insurance costs about £500 per year – this was paid for last year by Hampshire County Council's Men's Activity Network (???)

We need more fund raising – ideas? Perhaps a small donation each week from members who attend the session, on top of the refreshment money, to pay for the hire of the hall.

The terms of the liability insurance mean that we cannot sell our services or products – although we can ask for donations.

Trustees

The Avon Valley Shed constitution requires that a third of the current trustees step down each year. Chris stepped down, and was reappointed as trustee by the meeting. Members also appointed Paul Dennis as a trustee.

Mark Ward, one of the church wardens, has expressed an interest in becoming a trustee, but we left that for further consideration as negotiations with the church are ongoing.

Trustees can be appointed at any time, not just at the annual general meeting.

Other Business

Gary noted that we could form a “committee” – i.e. members with particular roles, like Paul’s role as project manager. Roles could include publicity, fund-raising, etc.

It was suggested that we plan other social events, such as barbecues, visits to other Sheds, or visits to other destinations such as specialist factories or workshops: members agreed that these were good ideas.

As well as the weekly social session at Hyde Club, we could have a bigger ‘do’ at Hyde Club every few months.

Minutes by Chris Dennis