

The Tiddy Hall

Ascott-under-Wychwood, Oxon

*Founded and given to the village by
R. Tiddy, Esq., in 1912*

ADMINISTERED BY LOCAL TRUSTEES

MINUTES

1st July 2026

19:00

Mulberry House

1. Present
John Bugeja (JB), Andrew Weaver (AW), Cathy Ferrier (CF), Lorna Bates (LB)
2. Apologies
Kathy Gale (KG) and Mark Pidgeon (MP)
3. Conflicts
None
4. Minutes of previous meeting
Approved and signed
5. Matters arising:
 - a. *AW to ask KG to sign Charity Commission declaration: **Pending – AW to execute.***
 - b. *KG to review Health and Safety policy and develop a plan of action to ensure compliance: **Pending due to KG's absence from meeting.***
 - c. *JB/MP to explore infrared panel solution for supplementary heating: **Committee agreed in principle that infrared panels would be a worthwhile investment. MP to confirm quote and share with committee for a final decision to proceed.***
6. Booking & Marketing Report:
 - a. Deferred due to MP absence
7. Treasurer's report
 - a. AW distributed a summary of the financial position. Key points:
 - i. Total YTD income (£17,177.91) is ahead of YTD budget by £3,177.91.
 - ii. Total YTD expenditure (£15,773.714) is higher than the YTD budget by £2,093.71. NB: this is impacted by the high electricity costs during the winter months. We expect electricity costs to be dramatically lower from May until September as the heating will not generally be needed and the longer days enable the solar panels and battery to operate at full effectiveness.
 - iii. Overall, we are favourable relative to budget (£1,084.20) with net surplus of £1,404.20.
 - b. A number of anomalies were noted, which AW will investigate:
 - i. There is currently a zero budget for bar takings and a £3,000 budget

for 'Miscellaneous' revenue items. We believe that this a simple posting error. The £3,000 budget should be for bar takings.

- ii. There is a posting for £872.81 under 'Refunds'. AW to investigate and confirm what this relates to.
- iii. There is a posting for £750 under 'Cash/FX'. AW to investigate and confirm what this relates to
- c. AW advised that Paul White has reviewed and signed off the accounts for the year to 31/12/2025.

8. Fundraising

- a. CF distributed a report summarising the position.
- b. Key points:
 - i. The Spacehive/Crowdfunding initiative has now closed and we successfully hit our target (£11,344). This is a great achievement and is due to CF's hard work and the generosity of a number of members of the community. Disappointingly, only £9704.22 has been credited to the account. We were aware that there would be fees deducted from the amount raised, but the difference between the funds raised and the funds received cannot be attributed to 'fees'. CF to investigate.
 - ii. The National Lottery grant of £20,000 has been approved. These funds will contribute to the cost of replacing the patio fire-exit doors.
 - iii. The Bernard Dudley grant of £5,000 has been approved. These funds will also contribute to the cost of replacing the patio fire-exit doors.
 - iv. We have a further £1,710 from Cottsway and £250 from The Giving Machine, both for the doors.
- c. The quote for the new theatre curtains (£7,244) has been approved and the order will be placed.
- d. The latest quote for the new stage has been received from MJ Tollett Carpentry. At £21,251.29 (including VAT), this is clearly far too high. JB will respond accordingly and ask for a more modest quote. CF has spoken with another contractor (Alan, from Clarkson's Farm) who is well known to Debra Cull. He believes he can re-use the existing stage and build the required extension, incorporating under-stage storage, for a much lower price. A further on-site meeting is scheduled for 3 July.
- e. The funds available for the patio doors are now potentially sufficient to cover the replacement of the main entrance door as well. JB to speak to Oak Windows and Doors to update the quote and arrange an on-site meeting.

9. Events

- a. 3PS Summer Dance: Volunteers required to cover the bar and the door and to manage raffle. It was agreed that we would sell tickets at £10 per head and that food would be available for purchase from a gourmet burger van or from a BBQ provided by a third party. We are aiming for 80 people to attend.
- b. Quiz Night (28th November)
- c. 2026 Panto (4th and 5th December): Good progress has been made with regard to the script. The initiation meeting took place on 30/6 and was well attended by villagers. PR and ticketing arrangements will be finalised in September. Seating will be theatre-style with a maximum capacity of 150. We are expecting at least 50 attendees per show.

- d. Burns Night (23rd January 2027); This is being arranged by Simon Gidman. No action is required at this stage.
10. Capital Expenditure/Maintenance
- a. Fire Risk Assessment (FRA) items to be actioned (high priority). This will be undertaken as part of the Health and Safety policy review. **KG to action**
 - b. Replacement tables (low priority)
 - c. Replacement patio doors (medium priority) – funding now available (see above).
 - d. Painting and decorating (medium priority) – after new stage and theatre curtain project has been completed and new patio/fire doors installed.
 - e. The shutter to the small bar needs to be repaired and made lockable.
11. Bar duties. **ACTION: All committee members to provide details of availability for subsequent dates.**
- a. 11/7/26 (Jazz Night) – **Simon & Nick**
 - b. 22/8 (3PS Summer Dance) – MP and JB will be performing so neither can run the bar. **All committee members to support (door, raffle, bar etc).**
 - c. 5/9/26 (Folk Night) - **LB**
 - d. 24/10/26 (Folk Night) - **AW**
 - e. 21/11/26 (Folk Night)
 - f. 19/12/26 (Folk Night)
12. AOB
- a. Further consideration to be given to acquiring a more powerful replacement oven.
 - b. After the meeting formally closed, the committee viewed the stage area, in particular the 'wings' that are currently used for storage. At the same time, they viewed the storeroom. It was noted that the cost of the new stage was inflated due to the need to retain this storage capacity. At the same time the very spacious storeroom was being used exclusively by pre-school. It is not being paid for. It was agreed through subsequent group chat that we should reclaim this storage space for our own use. It was also agreed that we would write to pre-school giving them notice to clear the storeroom by the end of August. We would be happy for them to use our storage shed and to install another storage unit in the car park to accommodate their items. JB agreed to write to pre-school on behalf of the committee and CF and AW agreed to undertake the follow-up meeting.
13. Date of next meeting
12th August 2026 (7pm) at Tiddy Hall



Chair
The Tiddy Hall
11 August 2026