

The Tiddy Hall Ascott-under-Wychwood, Oxon

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

ADMINISTERED BY LOCAL TRUSTEES

**Annual General Meeting
Thursday 13th June 2024
7pm (Trustees only)
7.30pm (open to the public)**

	Item	Action	By
1	Present: John Bugeja (JB), Jacquie Bugeja (JacB), Paula Lewis (PL), Pauline Plant (PP), Lynn Meuting (LM) & Liz Bell (LB)		
2	Apologies: Mark Pidgeon (MP)		
3	Conflicts: MP and PP are regular hirers. There is nothing on the agenda which might give rise to a potential conflict of interests.		
4	Minutes of Previous Meeting: Approved and signed.		
5	Matters Arising: The post code on the Castle Water account was recorded as OX7 6AF whereas the correct post code is OX7 6AG. Craft fair to be organised. Google-cam and floodlights to be purchased for installation by electricians at the same time as the LED lighting system.	Check portal to ensure post code has been corrected. Set a date. Purchase the equipment.	PL JacB and ML MP
6	Committee Composition: JB stood down as trustee and offered himself for re- election. Proposed by LB, seconded by LM and agreed by unanimous vote. LB formally confirmed as a trustee.	Trustee form to be completed.	JB

		Charity Commission Register to be updated.	JB
7	<p>Chairman’s Report: A copy was distributed to the committee and to members of the public who were in attendance.</p> <p>The following key points were discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Having incurred significant deficits in 2022/23 and 2021/22, and barely broken even in 2020/21, it was pleasing to note that Tiddy Hall has made a surplus in 2023/24. The actual cash surplus was £19,344.76 but this figure is inflated due to the receipt of a grant from the National Lottery. Only a portion of this was spent during the year to 31st May 2024 and the balance will be spent in the following year. This means that the year to 31st May 2025 will show a net deficit in cash terms, though this will, of course, also be misleading. Taking into account the unspent portion of the grant, Tiddy Hall made a surplus of £273.76 although it should be noted that this was after exceptional expenses were incurred which were funded out of our own resources (EICR testing and remediation and a new oven). This ‘non-recurring’ expenditure totalled some £3,000. • The much improved financial performance was due to a combination of factors including a review of pricing, better management of energy costs and numerous successful fundraising activities. • The ongoing flooding problem was discussed. Trustees and regular hirers will be aware that the patio adjacent to the car park floods whenever there is significant rainfall. The existing drainage system is clearly inadequate and a quotation has been obtained for this to be upgraded at a cost of £11,899.67. We have applied to the OCC for funding and await their approval. • It was noted that the viability of Tiddy Hall is heavily reliant on a very small group of volunteers. The lack of support from the broader village community is a cause of significant concern. It was agreed that we need to encourage much greater 	Chairman’s report to be appended to the minutes.	JB

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	<p>engagement with the community and various possible approaches were suggested, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Door to door promotion of Tiddy Hall to encourage people to volunteer (not necessarily as trustees).○ A questionnaire to enable residents to share their views regarding events and activities (to be distributed door to door and through the village shop).○ A stronger and more consistent social media presence.○ Promotion via The Swan (posters/flyers etc).○ Adding Hawkstone beers and cider to the bar stock and obtaining sponsorship/support from Diddly Squat Farm.○ Re-introducing the Film Night.○ Raffling Christmas Trees sourced from Costco. <p>All of the above are good ideas but the scarcity of resources to execute them was noted.</p>		
8	<p>Bar Duties: 13th July – 3PS Fundraiser</p> <p>20th July 2024 – Jazz at Tiddy Hall 27th July 2024 – Mark & Friends 7th September 2024 – Folk Night (Trackdogs) 14th September 2024 – Music Festival 19th October 2024 – Folk Night (While & Matthews)</p>	<p>JacB and Lawrence to manage the bar.</p> <p>LM to manage the door (ticket and raffle ticket sales).</p> <p>Raffle prizes to be sourced</p> <p>Event to be promoted and tickets sold</p> <p>Volunteers required</p>	<p>All trustees</p> <p>All trustees</p> <p>All trustees</p>

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	9 th November 2024 – Folk Night (Sunjay) 16 th November 2024 – Folk Night (Chris Leslie) 7 th December 2024 – Folk Night (Jackie Oates & John Spiers)		
9	Any Other Business None		
10	Date of Next Meeting 29 th August 2024 (7pm at Tiddy Hall)		



Chair
The Tiddy Hall

27 August 2024

Chairman's Statement - AGM – 13th June 2024

Firstly, let me acknowledge the commitment and input of the Tiddy Hall Management Committee. We are all volunteers, donating our time to support the ongoing viability of Tiddy Hall alongside our respective work and family commitments. For many, the time devoted to Tiddy Hall has been considerable, for which I am very grateful.

The last year has seen significant progress on several fronts. We started the year facing a challenging financial situation. In recent years, Tiddy Hall has generally seen a net deficit, with expenditure exceeding income. In 2020/21 we just about broke even (having received government grants totalling some £26,000) but in 2021/22 and 2022/23 we had a net deficit of around £3,000 and £8,000 respectively.

The provisional figures for the year to 31st May 2024 show a significant improvement in financial performance. The financial statements for 2022/23 (audited) and 2023/24 (unaudited) are available for you to review. I would highlight the following:

- The actual cash surplus was £19,344.76, but this figure is inflated due to the receipt of a grant from the National Lottery, only a portion of which was spent before the year-end.
- Adjusting for the related invoices which will be paid after the year-end, the surplus falls to just £273.76.
- The adjusted surplus, though not quite so impressive, still represents a very strong performance as exceptional costs were incurred during the year in respect of the EICR testing and remedial work and the purchase of a new oven. Together, these cost around £3,000 which was not covered by any external funding.

The improved financial performance this year was due largely to a modest increase in pricing coupled with some very successful fundraising events. The occasional art talks, dinner dances and musical concerts that we run as fundraisers continue to be well supported. Another fundraiser featuring Three Piece Sweet is scheduled for Saturday 13 July. Tickets are now on sale (£10 per person) and, as usual, there will be food and drink available to buy on the night.

You will appreciate that a huge amount of work goes into the production of these events and we are reliant on volunteers to get involved and help ensure that everything runs smoothly. Not only are these events crucial to the financial health of Tiddy Hall, but they are also highly enjoyable! We would love to see more people from the village attending the next event in July so please get your tickets nice and early. You can obtain tickets from me, Mark Pidgeon and Kevin Bishop.

As mentioned earlier, we were successful in obtaining a grant from the National Lottery for more than £19,000. This will cover the LED lighting upgrade and the installation of solar panels scheduled for August this year. These developments will help to reduce our energy costs and should ensure that we continue to operate in surplus.

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The other big initiative we are progressing is the surface water drainage remediation project. We are awaiting a final decision from Oxfordshire County Council following our funding request under their flood relief scheme. Hopefully, the funding will be approved and we can instruct the contractor to commence work. The cost is in excess of £12,000 so the funding is really important. In truth, this work is essential to prevent the regular flooding experienced every time it rains.

There have been some changes to the Management Committee in recent months. I am delighted to welcome Paula Lewis, Lynn Mueting and Liz Bell as trustees. According to our constitution, we should have nine trustees so we are still technically missing two trustees. Any villagers who are able to support the community by joining the Management Committee would be very welcome.

Despite the great progress made in the last year or so, I still harbour concerns regarding the commitment shown by the village in general to the ongoing viability of Tiddy Hall. Alongside all of the fundraising events and capital expenditure, I strongly believe that the long term viability of Tiddy Hall can only be assured if we have much greater engagement with villagers. The old saying 'use it or lose it' springs to mind! Most events actually attract more attendees from outside the village than from inside the village. There are the usual familiar faces that do actively support Tiddy Hall and we are very grateful for their commitment. There are, however, a great many more Ascott under Wychwood residents who I don't believe have ever set foot in Tiddy Hall.

This AGM is an opportunity for users of Tiddy Hall and villagers in general to hear about the important issues and developments impacting Tiddy Hall and to provide feedback to the Management Committee regarding what they would they believe works well and what they would like to change in order to make Tiddy Hall more effective in its role as the cultural, educational and recreational hub of the village.

Over to you!

John Bugeja

Chair of Trustees

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