The Tiddy Hall
Ascott-under-Wychwood, Oxon

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

ADMINISTERED BY LOCAL TRUSTEES

MINUTES

13th May 2026
19:00
Mulberry House

1. Present
   John Bugeja (JB), Andrew Weaver (AW), Cathy Ferrier (CF), and Mark Pidgeon (MP)

2. Apologies
   Kathy Gale (KG) and Lorna Bates (LB)

3. Conflicts
   None

4. Minutes of previous meeting
   Approved and signed

5. Matters arising:
   a. *AW to purchase chair stacking trolley:* **AW confirmed that he has priced the trolley at £76 but was reluctant to proceed due to the £49 delivery charge. MP has offered to collect the trolley whilst he is in the area (Lincolnshire) on Wednesday 20th May.**
   b. *AW to add KG to Charity Commission Register:* **Completed**
   c. *AW to ask KG to sign Charity Commission declaration*: **Pending – AW to execute.**
   d. *KG to review Health and Safety policy and develop a plan of action to ensure compliance:* **Pending due to KG's absence from meeting.**
   e. *AW to arrange to collect donation from Stephen Shepherd - (via Spacehive platform):* **AW confirmed he has provided bank details to the prospective donor but has heard nothing since. AW will chase and emphasise the urgency given the closing date of the crowdfunding project.**
   f. *AW to schedule a meeting with Pre-school to renegotiate pricing and to address storage concerns:* **AW has collated the information required and will arrange a meeting with Pre-school shortly.**
   g. *JB to arrange for soft-play area to be repaired and to claim on insurance for the costs:* **Completed**
   h. *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.

i. *LB to arrange for metal trolley to be removed from area next to clothes bank*: **Completed**

j. MP to ensure that Stage School avoid using the bar area for storage: **Completed**

k. MP to ensure that Stage School leave the committee room in usable condition after they have used it: **Completed. It was also noted that they undertook to erect a shed to store their materials, creating more space for the storage of Tiddy Hall equipment. This was supposed to have been done by the end of April. MP to chase.**

6. Booking & Marketing Report:
    a. Notable bookings
        i. No new bookings.
    b. Cancellations
        i. Pilates and Core Focus have cancelled their classes so the hall is now unused in the evenings (weekdays) apart from Pickleball on Mondays and Thursdays.

7. Treasurer’s report
    a. AW distributed a summary of the financial position. Key points:
        i. Total YTD income (£12,651.04) is ahead of YTD budget by £3,317.71. NB: This is impacted by the Pre-school billing cycle. Income will not be generated during the long summer break.
        ii. Total YTD expenditure (£12,151.64) is higher than the YTD budget by £2,972. 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 marginally favourable relative to budget (£153) with net surplus of £1,578.68.
    b. AW advised that Paul White will not now be able to review the accounts for the year to 31/12/2025 due to work and other pressures. AW advised that John Yateman has agreed to review the accounts. **AW to confirm when accounts have been reviewed.**
8. Fundraising
    a. CF distributed a report summarising the position.
    b. Key points in respect of Spacehive/crowdfunding project:
        i. This is intended to fund a new stage and theatre curtains and has reached 81% of the target with 16 days left to run. £9,064 has been pledged so far against a target of £11,160 leaving a gap of £2,496. It should be noted that the sum pledged includes £2,819 from WODC which is conditional on our achieving the overall target. In reality, therefore, the amount pledged that we can absolutely rely on so far is

£6,245.

ii. AW is progressing the gift-aid registration. Once this is in place, CW estimates that this will be worth £1,165 once individual donors sign gift-aid certificates and HMRC process the application. We are aware that this might take several weeks, which would be a problem relative to the current expiry date.
iii. It was agreed that CW will request a further extension to allow for the gift aid funds to be received. **CW to apply for an extension.**
iv. It was agreed that we should progress the work in respect of the new stage and the theatre curtains in advance of the pledged funds being released and, if necessary, pay for the work from our reserves pending receipt of the pledged funds.
v. In addition to the Spacehive/crowdfunding initiative, CW has applied for a grant of £2,000 from the D'Oyly Carte Foundation to add to the funding for the new stage and theatre curtains. A decision will be made in July 2026.

c. Key points in respect of other fundraising initiatives:
   i. These initiatives are primarily intended to fund new patio/fire doors.
   ii. CW has applied for £5,000 from Bernard Sunley. This has been successful but is conditional on our generating enough money to fund the project (around £35,000 in total).
   iii. CW has applied for £20,000 from the National Lottery Awards for All fund. A decision will be made in July 2026.
   iv. LB identified an opportunity to apply for £2,500 from Cottsway. CW has completed the application in LB's name. We await a response.
   v. CW has applied for £250 from The Giving Machine. We await a response.
d. Overall, CW has made fantastic progress and we are in a good position to progress the new stage and theatre curtains project this summer. It is a little disappointing to note, however, that neither Pre-school nor The Cotswolds Stage School, both of whom will benefit directly from this project, have made any donations.
e. The preferred supplier for the theatre curtains has withdrawn so CW will speak to Annie (Church View) who also quoted for the job. **CW to progress theatre curtain project.**
f. The preferred contractor for the new stage is not responding to calls and messages so we must assume that he is no longer interested in doing the job. The search for a new contractor is in progress. **MP, AW and JB to explore suitable alternative contractors.**

9. Events
   a. Eddie Gripper Jazz Trio: Volunteers required to cover the bar and the door and to manage raffle. **JB to ask Simon, Nick, Kathy, Lorna and Pauline for their availability.**
   b. 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. **JB to Simon, Nick, Kathy, Lorna and Pauline for their availability. CF confirmed that she would be available to support.**

c. 2026 Panto (4th and 5th December): Good progress has been made with regard to the script and an initiation meeting has been scheduled for 30/6 when all interested parties will be involved. PR and ticketing arrangements will be finalised in September. Seating will be theatre-style with a maximum capacity of 150.
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. Thermal linings for curtains (medium priority) – worth doing once patio/fire doors have been replaced.
    d. Replacement patio doors (medium priority) – subject to fundraising.
    e. Painting and decorating (medium priority) – after new stage and theatre curtain project has been completed and new patio/fire doors installed.

11. Bar duties. **ACTION: All committee members to provide details of availability for subsequent dates.**
    a. 23/5/26 (Folk Night) – **JB to ask Simon, Nick, Kathy, Lorna and Pauline for their availability.**
    b. 6/6/26 (Mark & Friends) – MP is performing and JB will be MC so neither can run the bar. JB will also unveil a plaque commemorating Roger Shepherd's chairmanship and will invite Simon Gidman to become Honorary President. **JB to ask Simon, Nick, Kathy, Lorna and Pauline for their availability.**
    c. 11/7/26 (Jazz Night) - **JB to ask Simon, Nick, Kathy, Lorna and Pauline for their availability.**
       CF to advise re her availability.
    d. 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).**
    e. 5/9/26 (Folk Night)
    f. 24/10/26 (Folk Night)
    g. 21/11/26 (Folk Night)
    h. 19/12/26 (Folk Night)

12. AOB
    a. It was agreed that we need more committee members. **MP to add an advert to website home page and in Grapevine.**
       JB/CF/AW to speak to Gareth and Kingsley on Friday 15th May.

13. Date of next meeting
    1st July 2026 (7pm) at Tiddy Hall

Chair, The Tiddy Hall
1st July 2026