**BELLINGDON AND ASHERIDGE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION (BAACA)**

**Reg. Charity No. 1087494**

**Minutes of Annual General Meeting
13th July 2021 at 8.00pm held via Zoom link.**

**Attendees:**

**Trustees/Management Committee Members** – Alf Field – Chairman, Emma Eckersley, Kirsty Fiddes, Hugh Griffiths, Helen Harding – Committee Secretary, Jo Richardson – Bookings Secretary, Peter Watson – Treasurer, Helen Valvona – Communications, Gary Woodley,

**From the Community:** Barbara Baker, Don Baker, Jane Edmunds, David Watson.

**Apologies:** Peter Brown, Simon Church, Marjorie Davies, Martin Horsted, Jo Richardson.

**Meeting opened at 8.00pm – Chaired by Alf Field**

1. **Minutes** – from previous meeting 23rd July 2020 were approved.
2. **Matters Arising** – none.
3. **Chairman’s report for year ending 31st March 2021 – full copy will be available on the website.**

**In summary –** the Chairman confirmed that the year started just as the Covid-19 Pandemic began to take hold, with none of us predicting the devastating effect it would have on all our lives, or that it would last for so long. Hopefully everyone has come through it unscathed.

The pandemic and associated restrictions have had an impact on the hall income but with hires in the brief periods it opened and the Covid Support Grants from Bucks County Councils the hall and grounds remain financially secure, enabling us to plan future maintenance and improvements.

Regrettably key events including the fete, Forro Fest and the Christmas parties for the children and seniors had to be cancelled – both Christmas parties to be resurrected in December 2021.

The Chairman highlighted the role of Jo Richardson (Bookings Secretary) managing bookings, providing advice, whilst ensuring that we complied with the ever-changing rules and thanked all the committee members for their commitment to maintain and manage the hall and its facilities.

1. **Financial** **Statement – copy on the website** - Peter Watson highlighted the key points, confirming that the Association is in a strong position.
2. **Village Organisations**

**St Johns Church** - Jane Edmunds reported that they continue to successfully embrace technology – the Sunday service is held each week online. As the restrictions are eased from 19th July 2021 online will be phased out and services will return to face to face. Tim (the Vicar) is looking at alternatives for those who do not wish to attend in person at present.

**Bowls Club** - Don Baker reported that the club achieved Safe Bowls Status from their governing body back in September 2020 which with the hall’s co-operation meant that they could resume bowling when the various lockdowns were partially lifted albeit with a lot of restrictions from mask wearing, position of mats and restricted numbers.

However, all the league games and other competitions were cancelled for 2020/21 and a decision is yet to be taken regarding the 2021/22 season, but they are hoping to return to full usage of the hall as soon as possible.

Don highlighted that the club is starting to struggle regarding numbers and are very keen to recruit new players from the local area. Once all restrictions are finally lifted it was agreed for a promotional article in the next Bellingdon & Asheridge Newsletter to help increase the membership.

Finally, he thanked Joanne Richardson for all her help and tolerance over the recent months – which has been really appreciated.

**Ladies Club** – Irene Roberts (via email) reported that the Ladies Club have started up again and hope to keep going as long as they all keep fit and well. They would welcome any new members who want to come along.

1. **Election of Trustees**

All trustees stood for re-election; proposed by Don Baker and seconded by Barbara Baker.

1. **Any Other Business**

**Goals** – David Watson asked if the goals will be re-instated onto the recreation ground for community use. Alf Field confirmed that the were locked up for security reasons; the keys were available whenever required. He is also looking into the option to have a separate set for recreational use and will be applying for additional funding to provide them.

**Re-opening the Hall** – the hall has been assessed for reopening in line with the Covid 19 information guidelines provided by ACRE and Community Impact Bucks by Jo, Helen H, and Helen V.

Each hire will be reviewed individually to confirm their and BAACA’s proposals meet all the government requirements – key is the safety of hirers.

**Playground** – the playground is checked monthly to ensure that it meets all safety and insurance requirements – All visits are logged.

Alf Field thanked all the Trustees, members of the Management Committee and the whole community for their support of the hall without which the facility would not survive.

**MEETING CLOSED**