

MINUTES – ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING ENGLISH BICKNOR VILLAGE HALL and BAR

The Annual General Meeting of E.B. Village Hall & Bar was held at the Hall on Monday 24th November 2025 at 7.30pm

1 PRESENT:

Mr. P Gwilliam (Chairman), Mrs. A Watkins (Vice Chair), Mrs. S Shelbourn (VH Treasurer), Mr. R Waldron (Treasurer – BAR), Mr. J Entwistle (Secretary), Mrs. J Maxfield (Functions), Mrs. D Gwilliam (FOSM/Facilities), Miss M Fox (Tuesday Lunch), Mrs. L Thexton (Gardening), Mr. Peter Warden (PC), Mrs. Sally Longley (WI). Mrs. J McHattie (PCC).

2.APOLOGIES:

Mr. K Froud (Table tennis), Mrs. R Lacy (History Club),

(Attendees as per attached sheets).

3. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

There were outstanding issues from last year's AGM.

- a) Fencing off the 'Peoples Orchard'. Now not considered necessary as the orchard has now developed into a 'Community Garden' at a different location. The ACTION now is to consider placing a low rail around the garden to give a clear demarcation between the playing field and the garden.
- b) Dog fouling signage: new signs have been put up asking dog owners to keep dogs under control and away from the play area. It is not considered that dog fouling signs are needed as this is no longer an issue. Action CLOSED.
- c) Proposal for putting the 'Names of the Fallen' on or around the phone box has now been taken on by the Parish Council who are considering several options. Action CLOSED for the village hall committee.

As these actions are now the 2024 AGM minutes were accepted as a true record.

4.MATERS ARISING

Funding of the Community Garden raised by Mr. G Parfit. The garden need membrane weed suppressor. PG stated that he may be able to get some plastic sheeting through his farming contacts. Mr. Parfitt also stated that wooden sleepers are needed to build raised flower beds at a cost of between £500 and £1,000 pounds.

5. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The chairman began with thanking the Management Committee and friends of the hall for their efforts throughout the last year. He particularly wanted to thank Mr. K. Thompson who has been a great contributor in the last year.

Grass cutting costs are an increasing burden at £1360 each year if the grass is cut every two weeks. The cost to cut weekly would be approximately £2,000 per year.

The chairman is also please with the progress of the Community Garden.

After a survey and report by a local tree surgeon some of the oak trees adjacent to the road have been trimmed and pollarded at a cost of over £2,000. Nil cost planning permission was required. The trees should now be safe for at least 10 Years.

Looking ahead the main hall needs decorating again and there is a plan to make public the toilets in the west wing for families and children who use the play area. Grant application is in hand and the two village charities have offered donations. Lucy Machen has pledged £4,000 and the George Whyral Charity has pledged £1,000.

6. TREASURERS REPORT

Mr. Roy Waldron presented the Treasurers Reports for the **VH Bar**. Opening Balance £16,606.61 with Bar Income of £18,390.12. After deducting Bar Charges and Bar purchases the Bar Gross Profit was £8,453.33. After deducting other expenditure, the Operational Profit/Loss was -£1,536.81 resulting in a Closing Balance of £15,069.80. Balance sheet ending 30th Sept 2025 is £16,903.13.

RW proposed that the bar donates £6,000 to the VH Charity. This has been agreed and accepted by the committee.

Mrs. S Shelborne (Treasurer VH) presented the **VH accounts**. Opening balance is £22,657.94 with Total Operational Income and Receipts £22,918.20. Total Expenditure is £18,855.03 with Operational Profit/Loss of £4,063.17. The VH bank balance as of 30th September 2025 was £25,117.11.

The hall held 20 functions in the last year with 57 hall bookings.

The Table Tennis Club has more players this year with all the income coming directly into the hall.

The mowing donation of £800 has been received from the Parish Council.

VH maintenance in the last year is £3,745 which includes fixing two roof leaks and installing a new external door in the west wing.

There is £81.52 held in the account for use by the Community Garden.

A contribution of £67 has been paid for the maintenance of the village website.

The old restricted fund account which was opened to handle Lottery Funding and Play Area development donations became difficult to manage and has therefore been closed. A new HSBC account has been opened and this will be used to collect grants for the toilet and changing rooms completion.

7. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The election of Officers/Managing Trustees was undertaken. All Officers/Managing Trustees resigned and no new nominations came forward. The Officers/Managing Trustees were proposed and seconded as below:

Position	Holder	Proposed by	Seconded by
CHAIRMAN/Trustee	Mr. P Gwilliam	Mrs. S. Longley	Mrs. J Maxwell
VICE CHAIRMAN/Trustee	Mrs. A Watkins	Mrs. D Gwilliam	Mr. P Warden
TREASURER (HALL)/Trustee	Mr. S Shelbourn	Mr. G Parfitt	Mr. R Waldron
TREASURER (BAR) Trustee	Mr. R Waldron	Mrs. A Watkins	Mr. J Entwistle
SECRETARY/Trustee	Mr. J Entwistle	Mr. P Gwilliam	Mrs. S Shelbourne
FACILITIES MANAGER/Trustee and temporary Bookings Secretary.	Mrs. D Gwilliam	Mr. P Warden	Mrs. R Lacy

Mrs. D Gwilliam has taken on the role of bookings secretary as Mrs. J Bradley has stood down recently due to health reasons. The committee will endeavor to find someone to fill this role permanently.

A representative from each organisation that uses the hall regularly, will be invited to at least two Managing Trustees meetings per year.

User Group/Representative	Representative
W I	Mrs. S Longley
Gardening Club	Mrs. L Thexton
FOEBS	Mrs. A Wood
Friends of St Mary's	Mrs. D Gwilliam
Table Tennis Club	Mr. K Froud
Tuesday Lunch Club	Mrs. M Fox
PCC	Mrs. J McHattie
Functions Committee	Mrs. J Maxfield
Local History	Mrs. R Lacey
Parish Council	Mr. P Warden
Village Representative	Mr. M Sutton

8. AOB

Mr. G Parfitt told the meeting that he was assisting the hall in gaining funding for the completion of the changing rooms and toilets. At the moment he is collecting all details to support the submissions.

Mrs. D Gwilliam told the meeting that a Sue Livingston has approached the hall with the aim of holding a bi weekly tea shop (Wednesdays) for parishioners and supported by the Lucy Machen village charity. Another aim of the tea shop will be to support parishioners who want DIY jobs doing and paid for by the Lucy Machen charity. This tea shop may clash with the current monthly tea shop held by the vice chair and the hall treasurer. This issue will have to be resolved.

A resident in the bungalow adjacent to the hall have complained that a light on the hall is permanently on and is a nuisance. ACTION: committee to bring the electrician in.

The hall treasurer on behalf of her husband has complained that the trees on the boundary between her property and the playing field need cutting back. They are blocking sunlight into their garden. ACTION: Committee to investigate.

Being no more questions, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.34 p.m.

Signed: