**Minutes of the Smailholm Village Hall Annual General Meeting 2020/2021**

**19 May 2021 7:30pm**

This meeting was held by Zoom to adhere to social distancing guidance.

**Present** : Lindsay Grime (Chair), Sally Scott-Aiton (Treasurer), Marjorie Barrow (Secretary), Lindsay Grime, Jane Roberts, Brian MacFarlane, John Barrow, Mary Carmichael, Denise Hunter.

**1. Minutes of previous meeting**

As the postponed 2019/2020 AGM was also held on 19 May 2021, the Minutes were not available and it was agreed that they would be reviewed at the AGM in May 2022.

**2. Matters arising**

If there were any matters arising, they too would be considered in May 2022.

**3. Chairperson’s Report**

The Chair tabled her report (copy attached). The year had begun and ended in a lockdown but there had been a period when the Hall was able to open under COVID regulations.

**4. Treasurer’s Report**

The Treasurer presented the accounts for 2020/21 (copy attached). She explained the support funds that had been available from SBC throughout the pandemic and it will mean that the Hall will come out of this difficult time in a strong position to open again.

The Chair thanked the Treasurer for her work on managing and presenting the accounts and for all the work that had been undertaken to secure the COVID funds.

**5. Election of Office Bearers and Committee Members**

All office bearers and members of the Committee resigned and all indicated that they would be happy to continue on the Committee for the forthcoming year. This to be confirmed at the next Committee meeting when the office bearers will be agreed.

**6. Any other business**

There was no further business.

**7 Date and time of next meeting**

Thursday 19 May 2022 at 7:00pm

**Smailholm Village Hall AGM**

**Chairman’s Report for May 2020 to May 2021**

Well, we started, and for that matter ended, this year with the Village Hall firmly closed and only the designated cleaner going in once a week to check that the boiler was still thrumming happily away and there weren’t huge pools of water on the floor.

The first chink of light came in mid-July when we received guidance from Roxburgh Federation of Village and Community Halls with regard to arrangements for re-opening. We wasted no time getting into action. We read reams of paperwork, undertook risk assessments, drafted guidance for users, set up a new cleaning regime, bought supplies, hung up a plethora of signs and installed hand sanitiser dispensers on virtually every available wall. We were ready for the government announcement that we could re-open.

We were able to do this in August, all be it with lots of rules and regulations about social distancing and ventilation. Pilates and Qi Gong both resumed classes, with a period of free hire to help support the leaders who had obviously been unable to work for some time and we started a Well Being Group to encourage some gentle exercise and keep people connected. The music and movement group also resumed towards the end of the year, again with free hire.

We were only able to hold a very few events the first of which was an informal gardens opening just for people in the village, to replace the Open Gardens event which had to be cancelled. It was very enjoyable and proved to be terrifically exciting to socialise with neighbours for the first time in months. We also held a very successful Christmas cake sale with proceeds going to McMillan and the hall, followed by carol singing outside just before Christmas, at which we served mince pies and mulled wine.

The committee remained active and kept the hall open until it was closed again on 26 December due to another lock down. We also continued work on the village borders, had the whole drive resurfaced, and cheered up the village at Christmas with a selection of lights, partly funded by the community council.

We are currently reviewing the rules again to make sure we are ‘Covid Secure’ ready for the next reopening which is expected any day.

My thanks go to the whole committee who have worked exceptionally hard to keep things going in very difficult circumstances.

