

**Paulton Village Hall
(Charity no. 276144)**

Minutes of the AGM held on Tuesday 21st November 2016 at 7.00pm held in the Meeting Room at the Village Hall, Farrington Road, Paulton

Trustees present – T Bridgeman, S Deacon-Church, G Dix, E Griffiths, L Hardman, H Howson, J Humphries, S Long, C Mitchard and H Warren.

Also present – J Swift (Clerk to the trustees) and L Rossiter (PPC admin)

1. CHAIRMAN FOR 2018

The information in the agenda was noted.

Resolved – that Councillor A Lyons will serve as Chairman of the Trustees for Paulton Village Hall charity.

2. TO RECEIVE ANY APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors H Brady, P Hartley, P McSherry, C Mitchard and M Stevens.

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Resolved – that the minutes of the meeting held on 15th November 2016 were approved by those present as a true record and signed by the Chair.

4. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE CHAIR OF TRUSTEES

I am pleased to report that the Village Hall continues to be very well used both by casual and long terms hirers.

The hall has been enhanced by the addition of new curtains which complement the paint work brilliantly and some of the blinds have been refurbished which has meant not having to purchase new ones. These improvements makes the space a very attractive place to hire. Redecoration to the foyer and the toilets is the next item to be considered in the maintenance programme for the hall.

Now that the Memorial garden's major 'makeover' has been completed, the final element of the design is to install an information lectern/plaque so that our residents will be able to read some of the history associated with Mr Purnell and the Purnell printing works. The site of the old factory has now become homes for many new residents to our village. This lectern/plaque will be part funded by a donation held by Paulton Parish Council from the Gravure printers, with the balance coming from the village hall funds. It is hoped that this will be in place soon after April 2018.

On behalf of the Trustees, a big thank you to the Admin team and Clerk for the smooth running of this fabulous facility.

5. ANNUAL BUDGET

Questions were asked:

Expenditure for the roof repairs – the repairs to the village roof was explained and it was confirmed this was not expected to be a regular expenditure. The decrease in budgeted and probable income from the meeting room was clarified.

Resolved – the annual budget for 2018 was approved.

6. MEMORIAL GARDEN

Resolved – (i) that the wording to go on the lectern is as follows, subject to the checking of the spelling of Symons. The photographs to go on the lectern will be the Ariel photograph of the site, Gays, Mr Purnell and the printing equipment. The name of the person in the photograph to be clarified and if there is not room for 4 photographs the printing equipment photograph will not be used.

Opposite this plaque once stood the largest general print works in Europe.

Purnell & Sons was founded in Paulton in the 1850's by Charles Purnell. Clifford Purnell, his youngest son, took up the management of the business in 1885. In 1924 he was joined by Wilfred Harvey. As the accountant, his modernisation of the systems allowed rapid expansion and by 1928 Wilfred became the Managing Director. The business outgrew its original site, so in the 1930s purchased the 26-acre Manor Farm estate, opposite the Church, which created the space for new efficient machinery to be installed. At its peak, the Company employed 2,500 people.

During the war from 1939-45 the Air Ministry took over one of the buildings where Symons Aerocessories assembled aircraft engines.

Following the war, Purnell's acquired many other printing companies, to eventually become known as 'The British Printing Corporation' making it a worldwide business of international renown.

Sadly, by the 1980s the company was in financial difficulties and a 'rescue package' by Robert Maxwell failed. The company then known as 'Polestar', closed in 2005 and the land was sold to housing developers.

Resolved – (ii) that an A2 size, 3mm aluminium with n-viro graphic panel is to be chosen type.

Resolved – (iii) that the cost will not exceed £500 from the Village Hall budget and the £309 which is being held by the Parish Council.

7. QUESTIONS

It was asked if the village hall window at the rear of the hall had been fixed. It has been repaired and is looking much tidier.

The play bus was unable to park in the village hall car park one Tuesday as there was no space available – this was due to the Vets practice next door having works done to their car park and using the Village Hall's. This work has now been completed.

Signed as a true record:

Chair:

Date: