Garvald Village Hall Trust - Minutes of AGM 11th November 2025 – Hall, 7.30pm

Committee Members, Trustees & Community Council Representatives Present:

- Gary McGregor **GM** – Chair
- Shirley Evatt **SE –** Secretary
- Tom Edmonds **TE** – Treasurer
- Lee Robertson **LR –** Committee Member
- Anne Raitt **AR –** Committee Member
- Donald Sutherland **DS** – Committee Member
- Richard Brand **RB** – Committee Member
- Sarah Ramsay **SR –** Trustee
- Phillip White **PW** – Chair of Garvald & Morham Community Council **GMCC**

Apologies:

- Ian Marwick **IM –** Trustee

Community Members Present:
Kirsty Malcom, Allan Nicolson, Anne White, Freda Crosbie, Norma Thomson, Jimmie Thomson, Jo Robertson, Eric Easton, Colin Jack, Jim Pattison, Andrew Duncan, Leonie Alexander, Graham Barnes, Alison Barnes, Hazel Clark

Apologies received from Sheila Drurie & Caroline McGregor

Minutes of the last AGM held on 6th November 2024 were approved by **AR** as a true and accurate account and seconded by **SR**. These have been published on the GVHT page of www.Garvald.org.uk

Welcome and Opening Statements from the Chair

- **GM** welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending and introduced local resident David Walls who would be presenting after the meeting, on the Spanish Civil War - Propaganda Bias & Misrepresentation of Truth.

- **GM** introduced the committee members and summarised their roles as noted below:
    - **GM –** Chair
    - **SE –** Secretary and building fabric repairs project coordinator.
    - **TE –** Committee member and Treasurer
    - **LR –** Committee member and maintenance/odd jobs lead.
    - **RB –** Is our Social Media lead and does great work in promoting the hall, particularly as a wedding venue which is the principal source of income for the hall.
    - **DS –** Committee member
    - **AR –** Committee member assisting with fundraising for events.
- All members have now served for 2 years or more and as such should stand down and be re-elected in accordance with the constitution.
- **AR** proposed that all existing members be re-elected. Jim Pattison seconded this motion.
- **GM** advised that there is scope for 3 additional committee members to join, to give a maximum of 10, therefore welcomed interested persons and noted the benefits of sharing the responsibility and benefitting the community.
- **GM** advised that we have a quorum at the meeting.
- **GM** welcomed Phillip White **PW**, Chair of the Garvald & Morham Community Council. **GM** attends the Community Council meetings on a bi-monthly basis and **PW** attends the bi-monthly Village Hall Committee meetings. GM talked about how the Hall committee and **GMCC** collaborated to successfully get East Lothian Council to reduce the Orchard Hire rate imposed with venue hire.
- **GM** confirmed that we have three trustees and welcomed trustee, Sarah Ramsay **SR**. Trustees Ian Marwick **IM** and Hugo Straker **HS** were not present, but **IR** had confirmed that he will stay on for one more year then stand down. It assumed that **HR** will also be staying on.
- **GM** advised that the bookings secretary role remains with Laura Edmonds **LE** who is very enthusiastic, efficient and responsive and does a great job in promoting the hall.

Bookings Update – Provided in advance by LE and presented by GM

- The hall has had another busy year with a number of continuing regular users and groups, including Yoga classes, Playgroup, Craft Club, Table Tennis and GMCC for bi-monthly meetings.
- Annual events have included the Horticultural Show, Kids Halloween Party, Kids Christmas Party, Christmas Dinner and the Hogmanay Hoolie.
- **GM** noted a request from Caroline McGregor for all wishing to attend, to return forms for this year's Christmas Dinner.
- There has been 2 weddings and private parties.

- Other single use events have included:
    - The Edinburgh Cycle Club lunch
    - Lucy's Place Session
    - Messy Church
    - Coffee Mornings
    - Plant Sale
    - Wellness Retreat
    - Jazz Night
- **GM** asked all to give some thought to other uses for the hall and promote whenever possible.

Financial Update from TE

- **TE** provided an update on the status of the various hall accounts.
    - At the beginning of the year, 1st August 2024, the balance was £14,800.00
    - At the end of the year, 31st July 2025, the balance was £70,143.00
- The bulk of the funds comes from the GMCC £60k funding granted by GMCC to support the hall fabric repair works.
- Current expenses for the hall total £12,240.00 per annum and gas and electricity costs are continuing to rise, therefore any ideas for fundraising to help cover these ongoing costs would be welcomed.
- The new Friends of Garvald Village Hall scheme is working well with 19 regular doners which brings in £125.00 per month. We have also received £800.00 from one off donations so thank you to all who contributes.
- **TE** noted that we can utilise gift aid if you pay tax and GM will leave forms for people to fill in.

Hall Repair Works Update from GM/SE

- **GM** iterated that we as a committee are stewards of the hall and have recognised that the building is now in need of repair.
- The works to repair/replace the windows has been identified as a priority and as such quotations have been received from 3 companies.
- **SE** advised that through consultation with East Lothian Council they have confirmed that Planning Consent and Listed Building Consent would be required for the window works. This is currently under ongoing discussion.
- East Lothian Council have requested that a full window survey be carried out to identify and illustrate the current condition of the windows and to note the areas of defect. **SE** to approach one of the joinery companies to assist with this.
- **GM** thanked **SE** for her efforts to date.

Upcoming Events

- **GM** highlighted that a Christmas Market would take place on 30th November 2025 and thanked AR for her efforts in helping to organised this.
- The annual Christmas Dinner will take place in the hall on 4th December 2025.
- A series of local events would shortly commence including Discovery of Music – The Men of Morham Colin Pryde and a talk by David Murray on the work of the War Graves Commission

Points Raised by Attendees

- No questions or points raised.

GM closed the formal part of the meeting and handed over to David Walls for his presentation and invited all to enjoy some wine and cheese.