Garvald Village Hall Trust - Minutes of meeting 18th August 2026 – Hall, 7.30pm

Present: Gary McGregor **GM** Chair, Shirley Evatt **SE** Secretary, Sarah Ramsay **SR** Trustee**,** Lee Robertson **LR**, Kirsty Malcolm **KM,** Phillip White **PW** Chair of Garvald & Morham Community Council (**GMCC**),

Apologies:, Tom Edmonds **TE** Treasurer, Anne Raitt **AR,** Donald Sutherland **DS,** Richard Brand **RB**

Minutes of the last committee meeting on 27th May 2026 were approved as a true and accurate account.

Matters Arising:

- Gift Aid – **DS** to speak to **GM** re. any queries in relation to getting hall registered with HMRC.
- **SR** & **KM** discussed storage of ladders after last meeting. **LR** to look at the ladders after the meeting and decide whether these can be stored in the vestibule in the hall.
- **GM** advised that he had sent thanks to Matthew at Nunraw and Malcom Macmillan for their help and input with the plant sale and noted that they had been happy to be involved.
- **GM** to check with **DS** to confirm if Playgroup is returning after summer break.
- **GM** noted that the Christmas market would likely be going ahead. **AR** to liaise with Trudi re. arrangements/organisation.
- **KM** advised that the Lammermuir Community Group has had two meetings to date but still setting up and discussing legal issues etc.

Hall Repair Works:

- **SE** advised that the Listed Building Consent/Planning applications are being prepared by Mill Architects and should be ready for submission to East Lothian Council in the coming weeks.

Financial Report:

- **TE** provided finance update:
  - Community Account £ 3,162.76
  - Contingency Account £12,145.35
  - Windfarm Account £20,404.86
  - 95 Day notice account £30,965.07
  - 32 Day notice account £15,339.78

- Regular contributions to friends of GVH is £160 per month, plus regular rent from **KM** for Yoga classes.
- Paid a much-reduced insurance bill of £2,469.21
- **KM** undertook to look at reducing insurances but there is no time to do anything about trustee insurance at this stage. **KM** was successful in getting the insurance renewed through broker for same valuation and including PI and employers liability cover for £400 cheaper than previous year.

Booking Secretary Report:

- **LE** provided a Bookings Report
    - Regular users are still
        - Table Tennis
        - Yoga on Tuesdays and Thursdays and
    - Upcoming events
        - 2 further weddings are booked for this year (29th August and 1st weekend in October)
        - Village Show on 22nd August.

Marketing & Events:

- **KM** noted that meeting of the community group planned for 26th September not possible and will speak to Caroline McGregor to advise.
- A fundraiser piping concert at Papple is arranged for 12th September 2026 under an initiative of Roger Harris from Morham and following a successful similar event that was held in Morham a couple of years ago. Proceeds will go to support the Village Hall repair fund. Tickets are being advertised at £20 per adult, £10 for concessions and free for under 12s, with a maximum capacity of 200 people. George Mackintosh and Verity Sinclair at Papple are looking for 3 no. helpers to assist with car parking. **GM** will speak to **TE**, **RB** and **DS**. Thank you to Roger for organising this and to George for donating the venue free of charge.

Maintenance Update:

- A maintenance day like the one held last year is to be planned for one weekend in October. **LR** suggested pencilling in Sunday 4th October at 2pm but will check and confirm availability and advertise for volunteers through website.
- **KM** noted the idea of planting a wildflower meadow to the land at the rear of the building had been put forward at the previous Soup & Suggestions afternoon and asked if this could be planned in following completion of the building works. It could be an attractive addition for events/venue hire. Everyone agreed that this should be considered further once the area has been cleared.

Any Other Business:

- The 2026 AGM was discussed, and it was agreed that this would be held on Tuesday 27th October in the hall at 7.30pm. A short committee meeting will precede the AGM.
- **SR** kindly agreed to arrange the cheese and wine again.
- **GM** sought ideas for a post meeting talk.
- **GM** confirmed that two of the existing trustees would be standing down from their positions at the AGM. Three no.trustees are required therefore seeking volunteers to take up the positions.
- **PW** confirmed that he would be willing to become a trustee.
- Volunteers for remaining trustee position to be sought at AGM with nominations sought in advance but **GM** or **KM** would be willing to take on if there are no other interested parties.
- **PW** suggested using Owl speaker and AI for generation of minutes at future meetings. This has been successful in Community Council meetings. **SE** to speak to Dave Ramsay re. the process for the CC meetings.

Date of next Committee meeting – Tuesday 27th October 2026 at 6.30pm in the hall (prior to AGM)