

**HARDINGTON MANDEVILLE VILLAGE HALL**  
**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**Held on 6<sup>th</sup> May, 2026 at 7.30 p.m.**

**Charity Number: -304551**

1. **Present:** - Mrs. D. Creed, Mrs. K. Dodge (Chairperson), Mr. T. Gillingham  
Mrs. S. Mead Mrs. H. Menhennett and one member of the public- Mrs. S. Phillips.
2. **Apologies received from:** - Mr. R. Beatson, Mrs. T. Goodger, Mr. R. Halls,  
Mrs. S. Jinks, Mrs. D. Riddell, Mr. P. Riddell, Mr. M. Southwell.
3. **Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> May, 2025** were approved.
4. **Matters arising from the Minutes** – none.
5. **The Chairperson's Annual Report as follows was approved by the Committee.**

Our Village Hall Committee now consists of 12 members. We welcomed one new member, Mrs Susan Mead- currently the W.I. Rep.

This has proved to be another busy year for the Committee as we have made extensive improvements to the hall as well as coping with sizeable running costs. We are very grateful to the regular users of the hall for their continued support, these include: the W.I., the Garden Club, Tai Chi, the Players and Parish Council. We were pleased that in January 26 new Zen Yoga and Pilates classes started at the hall. The hall has also been used for the Flower and Craft Show in August as well as for occasional birthday parties, meetings, wedding receptions and wakes.

We are extremely grateful to Dy Catford and her support team for their hard work in continuing to run the Village Hall Coffee Mornings, these take place monthly and continue to be very popular, whilst providing a chance for people to meet up socially they also provide vital financial support to the Hall.

Our film shows also help support the hall financially. These continue to be well attended, and we usually have an afternoon performance as well as an evening performance. I am very grateful for the time, cakes, raffle prizes and other support provided by members of the Committee and the community as this is vital towards helping to make these events such a success.

The Committee is extremely grateful to the Street Fayre Committee and their supporters for the time and effort put into the Street Fayre which took place on 5<sup>th</sup> July. This was once again a very successful and enjoyable day resulting in a very significant donation to the hall. A stunning firework display, organised by locals, took place at the Royal Oak on 5<sup>th</sup> November and again the hall was lucky enough to benefit from a donation. Donations were also received from the village breakfast which took place on 12<sup>th</sup> April 2025, the Rotary Club of Yeovil, from local individuals

and from the Players following on from their brilliant production of 'The Wind in The Willows'. Last year one hundred people joined our 100 club, which again helped to boost our funds.

The Committee have responsibility for safety at the hall, and the annual Fire Risk Assessment was undertaken on 30/9/25. Weekly checks of the fire alarm system are undertaken as well as monthly checks of the fire extinguishers and the Emergency Lighting System. The annual check of the Fire Extinguishers was completed by Fireshield on 10<sup>th</sup> March 26. A 3 hourly check of the Emergency Lighting system last took place on 12 January 26 after lights were fitted above the new accessibility exit door, at the same time the emergency light in the gent's toilet was replaced. The first aid box was checked in November 25 thanks to Sue Phillips.

The fire alarm system has to have 6 monthly checks, and these were completed by SES in September 25 and February 26. Full details of these checks, their findings and action taken are held in a folder at the hall.

Thanks mainly to the generosity of volunteers (including those from the local company Leonardo's) and a significant Lottery Grant the following improvements were made in the year to 31/3/26:

\*WIFI was installed in April 2025.

\*The inside of the main hall and the outside wall of the car park were repainted in April 25 by volunteers from Leonardo's.

\*In June, the frontage to the hall was replaced and double-glazed windows installed in the entrance foyer. A new accessibility entrance was created to the rear of the hall.

\*Floor vents were installed in August.

\*In October the ramp to the rear of the hall was removed, the drainage improved, two heavy duty manhole lids installed to replace the existing ones and the area re-tarmacked.

\*Derek Richards kindly renovated the 'old school lamp' at the entrance to the hall in October.

\*At the request of hall users, new projector cables were fitted in November.

\*A new garage door was also purchased and fitted in November.

\*White PVC Cladding was installed above the entrance porch in December.

Our Policies and Procedures were reviewed and up dated and revised versions placed on the Village Website.

Next year we face further significant challenges to our finances as the inverter on our solar panels has failed and needs to be replaced, our 5 yearly electrical check is due at the end of May 26 and a water leak in the hall car park has recently been discovered and needs to be sorted out.

I should like to thank the Parish Council for continuing to provide much needed financial support to the hall and for allowing us to use the Ranger from time to time to do odd jobs around the hall. I am confident that with the continuing support of the hall Committee, the community and the Parish Council our hall will continue to be a great asset for the community.

Thanks also to the Webmaster and to the Messenger team for their hard work in advertising events and for passing on information to the community.

Without the dedication and hard work put in by each of the village hall Committee members, we would not have been able to achieve the improvements to the hall outlined above and the positive feedback received from people using the hall makes all the time and effort worthwhile.

I should like to thank every one of the Committee for the time that they have put into supporting me, each other as well as the community as a whole during what has proved to be a very challenging year.

Karen Dodge

Village Hall Chairperson.

## **6. The Treasurers' Report**

We have received tremendous financial support from various groups and individuals and the hard-working committee. During the year we received £200 from the Village Breakfast, £2,000 from the Street Fayre, £102.12 from the church donations at Amy Knight's funeral, £311.50 from the Firework display, £522.50 from the Rotary Raffle. The monthly donation from Dy Catford and her team running the monthly Coffee Morning is very much appreciated as well as providing a social gathering. During the year £2,601.50 was raised from this event. The film afternoons/evenings have brought in several hundreds of pounds thanks to all the volunteers and, of course, the delicious cakes.

We are also thankful to the Parish Council for their financial support.

The main hall users are the Hardington Players, The Garden Club, W.I., Robin Sheldrake Tai Chi, Pilates and Yoga.

The financial statement was presented and approved by the Committee.

We are finishing the year financially in good stead and I am sure will continue for years to come.

## **7. The following were elected as individual members to the Village Hall Committee:**

Mrs. K. Dodge, Mr. T. Gillingham, Mrs. T. Goodger, Mrs. S. Jinks,  
Mrs. H. Menhennett

## **8. The following representatives were appointed to the Village Hall Committee: -**

Garden Club	Mr. P. Riddell
Parish Council	Mr. R. Halls
Parochial Church Council	Mrs. D. Creed
W.I.	Mrs. S. Mead
The Hardington Players	Mrs. D. Riddell

## **9. To be co-opted onto the Committee: -** Mr. R. Beatson, Mr. M Southwell.

**10. Any other business**

Mrs. S. Phillips thanked the Committee for all they do and especially Mrs Karen Dodge for all the time she puts into working at the hall.

Although not part of the Village Hall inventory, she also felt that Robin Carpenter should be thanked for checking the defibrillator every fortnight,