



MINUTES

Combe Raleigh Village Hall Annual General Meeting

Tuesday 21st April 7:30pm – 9:00pm

Called by: Village Hall Committee Chairman

Attendees: Open Public Meeting

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Present

Brian Churchill (Chair), Kay Churchill, Claire Kemp, Chris Kemp (Secretary), Jenny Rickson (Treasurer), Laurence Clarke, Anne Rickson, Tim Lynn, Rose Lynn, Michelle Blackburn, Jamie Palmer, Jonathan Holding, Lucy Holding, David Jackson, Claire Turner, Rosemary Mapleston, Heather Trim, Serena Sexton, Lisa Clarke, John Brabrook, Val Brabrook

The Chair welcomed everybody.

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Apologies for absence

Tony Dezell, Carol Lazarus

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Minutes of the last AGM meeting

The Minutes of the meeting held on 24th April 2025 had been made available for all to read and were signed as a correct record.

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Matters arising not on the agenda

None

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Reports

Chair's Report

We have held 8 meetings throughout the year,

Thanks to all Committee members and guest for their dedication.

Thanks to our secretary Chris and Treasurer Jen for their work through this year.

Our meetings have been positive and well attended and our guest was Jonathan Holding.

I would like to say I have appreciated having such a brilliant secretary and Treasurer.

Chris has done a great job during his first year, he is very hands on with the upkeep of the hall and has done a great job updating the Parish Web Site, promoting the hall and all other village events. Hall bookings have gone up since. Not forgetting Claire and family who put a great effort in at our events.

The Committee have done a great job organising and getting events together and running smoothly. I feel I should mention their names, David, Laurence, Helen, Ann and Kay.

We are still looking for new members to join our happy band. Guests are very welcome to come and join in at our meetings.

OUR EVENTS

Saturday June 7th. Scott Phillips with his Guitar . Helen arranged this with Scott. Several people came. The evening went well, lots of food, dancing and drinks.

Friday July 25th. Pub Night. Good fun and games. People enjoyed mingling, chatting and drinking. The nibbles were enjoyed.

August Bank Holiday Fun Day. Good fun, Bouncy Castle, Like to thank Chris for setting up the music, David and Laurence for the BBQ and Claire for organising the Tea and Cakes. and thanks to Sue and her friends for organising the Dog Agility. Thanks to all other helpers from the village as well for the preparation

Saturday 4th. October -- Harvest Supper This was very successful a step back to the old days. The meal was superb and well appreciated by everyone. Thanks to David for organising the meal and Chris for taking care of the booze. Thank to Laurence for collecting the money on the door. Much easier with our new card terminal. The auction made a nice lot of money half went to the church other half to the Hall

Friday 7th. November Bonfire and Fireworks. This was a great success with real flaming torches for the adults made by David and doctored by Laurence. The children had safety LED lanterns. This all worked really well. The lantern parade from Laurence's car park up to the hall looked spectacular. Then the smell of the sausages and burgers made a good atmosphere for the bonfire and fireworks to get going. The toffee apples were enjoyed. Thanks to the Edwards family for the

use of their field and for making the bonfire and the Churchill family for organising the fireworks.

Friday 19th December -- Christmas Pub Night. The people that came did enjoy it but we would have liked a few more. So many other places to go at that time of the year.

The hot mince pies, sausage rolls and mulled cider went down well.

Friday 30th January -- Quiz Night What can I say, this is always a successful evening. Max and his ladies did a wonderful job. The committee also did a wonderful job with a good selection of food. The well attended bar made plenty of money. Thanks to Chris.

Saturday April -- Easter Bingo Great success the hall was full with adults, children and chocolate eggs. Thanks to Helen and Jen for organising the Bingo and Helen for getting the eggs. Thanks to Chris and Claire for the nibbles and running the bar. **Absolutely a fantastic evening.**

We are all pleased with the year's performance and looking forward to good next year.

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Secretary's Report

Over the last 12 months, the hall has continued to serve as a valuable hub for our community. We have hosted a wide range of regular activities including clubs, classes, social gatherings, and private events. It is encouraging to see consistent use of the hall and continued support from local residents and groups.

The Committee has met regularly throughout the year to oversee the management and maintenance of the hall. Minutes have been recorded and circulated as appropriate, and key decisions have been made collectively to ensure the hall remains safe, accessible, and financially sustainable.

Our objective this year was to resolve the financial deficit from previous periods and, at minimum, reach a break-even point. I am happy to report that we accomplished this, and thanks to an additional generous donation, the hall is now profitable again.

To achieve this, we began by thoroughly cleaning and organising the space, maintaining facilities, and carrying out upgrades such as replacing windows, fixing the roof, painting the toilets, and refurbishing games equipment. These improvements have enhanced our facilities and enabled the hall to better serve its users.

We are grateful to all volunteers who have given their time to support the hall, whether through organising events, helping with maintenance, or assisting behind the scenes. Your contributions are essential and very much appreciated.

We would also like to thank our regular hirers and local supporters for their continued involvement and cooperation.

Communication has remained a priority, and we have continued to keep users informed through WhatsApp groups, noticeboards, email and other social media. If there are ways we can improve communication further, we welcome your feedback.

As we celebrate our centenary, we plan to improve the hall's front exterior, steps, and garden to restore its former appeal. With more private hires, we believe boosting kerb appeal will be a worthwhile investment.

Looking forward, the Committee is committed to broadening the scope of events and activities held at the hall. In addition to established favourites such as the quiz, bingo, produce show, fun day, harvest meal, bonfire night, and social pub evenings, new proposals under consideration include a big breakfast and a curry night. Residents are invited to submit suggestions, and all those interested in contributing are encouraged to become involved.

Finally, I would like to thank my fellow committee members for their ongoing commitment and teamwork over the past year.

In summary, it has been a positive and productive year for the Village Hall. We look forward to continuing to develop and improve the hall for the benefit of the whole community in the coming year.

Matters arising

There were some event suggestions from the floor, Jumble Sale, fancy tea party or meal.

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Treasurer's Report

Jenny circulated the report.

Last year we made a loss of £1,292.79 and this year a profit of £2,364.15 having spent £3,726.71. Our club and social event income together with a generous donation contributing to this excellent result.

Cash in Hand £351.60

Current account £13,907.66

Total £14,259.26

We have a 'Youth Club' allocation of £870.02

Jenny thanked John Brabrook for examining these accounts

Matters Arising:

None

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Election of Chairperson

Brian Churchill: - re-election proposed by Jamie Palmer, seconded by Rose Lynn

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Re-Election of Committee Members

In line with the Constitution, the two longest serving members stand down.

Kay Churchill: - re-election proposed by Claire Kemp, seconded by Jenny Rickson

Laurance Clarke: - did not stand for re-election

It was agreed to re-elect the following members of the Committee en bloc:

Ann Rickson, Claire Kemp, David Jackson, Helen Williams, Jenny Rickson, Kay Churchill: - Proposed by Tim Lynn, seconded by Rosemary Mapleston

Esme Moffett stood down.

Jonathan Holding stood for election: - Proposed by Laurance Clarke, seconded by Kay Churchill

Election of Officers

It was agreed to re-elect the following Officers

Jenny Rickson (Treasurer): - proposed by Kay Churchill, seconded by David Jackson

Chris Kemp (Secretary): - proposed by Jamie Palmer, seconded by Serena Sexton

The Chair thanked Laurance and Esme for their valuable contribution to the Village Hall over many years and welcomed Rose and Tim Lynn as guest members.

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Any Other Business

The trustees reiterated their request for help locating the Village Hall's original deeds. While they are not needed urgently, it may be important to have them in future. An official copy currently costs more than £6,500. The deeds were last seen in the village around 2014. We have photocopies of the documents and the brown envelope they were kept in, but the photocopies cannot be used for official business.

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Date of next committee meeting

Tuesday 5th May 2026 at 7:30pm in the Village Hall

Meeting closed at 8:45pm

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