

Minutes of Isle Abbotts Village Hall Committee

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday 13 May 2025

Held in the Village Hall at 7.30pm

Present:	Sue Vickery (Chair), Sue Robson (PCC Representative and Bookings Secretary) Julia Bull (Interim Treasurer) Fiona Hillman (Secretary), Andy Hillman (Parish Council Representative), Di Cleal, Gaynor Watts, Claire Smith, Sara Bannister, Bella Lagnado, David Sutcliffe, Lesley Sutcliffe, Tim Watson, Peter Herbert, Liz Lockley, Barbara Rickett, Phil Bull, Robbie Robson
Apologies:	Boo Grieve, Emily Colenso, Maureen Bowman, Martin Rickett, Lorraine Vaun-Davis
Minutes of Previous Committee Meeting:	
Minutes of the last meeting (15 May 2024) were approved and signed by SV. AH to upload onto village website.	
Matters Arising:	
None	
Chairman's Report:	
SV opened the meeting expressing her thanks to volunteers for their continued hard work and added what a great village asset the hall was and although it has been kept in good repair it may be time to repaint the interior and maintain the floor and some of the windows. Income has been generated from events and hall bookings although what might have been a regular booking, namely the Yoga class, had not worked out due to several reasons. SV advised the Social Committee update would follow later in the meeting.	
Treasurer's Report:	
JB advised how she had stepped into the Treasurer role due to the previously elected member stepping down to ill health. JB circulated the Treasurer's Annual Report (6 April 2024 to 13 May 2025) including a breakdown of total annual income and expenditure (balances as at 13.5.25): Total Income for the year £7,731.99 Total Outgoings for the year of £10,411.24.	

Total Funds across all accounts of £10,167.93.

Income compared to last year represents an increase of just over £1,700 helped by the fees paid by the Parish Council for two election days. Outgoings had been higher this year due to the purchase of solar panels, but despite this the closing balances are not that much different from the previous year's figures.

LL queried whether the PCC payment had been received in respect of the hall hire. JB located this on the list of income payments and acknowledged receipt.

JB advised that the Annual accounts will be Audited by Liz Coleman prior to submission to the Charity Commission. Liz has volunteered to take over the responsibility from David Bradshaw. We take this opportunity to thank both Liz and for David for his contribution over all these years.

JB explained (as outlined on the circulated Summary and Notes), that an estimate of £3,150 per year will be required for village hall running costs. Additional fixed annual costs not on the list are the SIM card and Green Waste Collection and Fire Extinguisher servicing.

Regular hall hire is well received, such as bookings made by the Choir.

Total income from social events held last year alone was £2653.17.

JB closed by saying that hopefully the next year will be a profitable one due to less big expenditure items. Despite extra spending over the past year, we are still in a good place, and she thanked all involved.

Solar Panels Update

A solar panels status report produced by DS was circulated.

JB confirmed the solar panels were in and working but that Scottish Power had been very slow. DS added his frustration in this regard saying it was not without trying but he would not give up until it was sorted.

Credits have yet to be received from Scottish Power. We are owed in the region of £350 in credits for the 12 months to end of June 2025.

RR asked how long we are tied into Scottish Power and DS replied there was no fixed term. RR asked if we could move to another provider to get a better deal. DS responded that Octopus do not work with charity bodies, and an alternative is Octopus nondomestic tariff, but Scottish Power is 3 x better.

DS added that on electricity we saved c. £100 by switching to Octopus and we can monitor usage, and we have signed up for another 2-year fixed tariff.

JB advised that electric cost is now approximately £20 pm but it peaked at £130pm.

PB asked if it might be a consideration for the hall to be used by younger community groups such as Scouts of Youth Club to generate a regular income. SV highlighted how this had

<p>been attempted in the past and other incentives to encourage the younger crowds in such as pool had unfortunately not worked.</p>	
<p>Social Committee Report:</p>	
<p>SV reported that over the past year there had been some diverse events held at the hall and in the village such as the Summer Ball, First Aid Course, Defibrillator refresher course (presented by LS), Pub Nights, Quiz nights, Skittles Night, and more recently the Bee Talk which was very well attended and the type of event we need more of. Plans are now underway for a Village Summer Show with a Barn Dance in the evening before to include children.</p>	
<p>Booking Secretary's Report:</p>	
<p>SR reported reduced regular bookings such as Chi Gung which had been relocated to the Jubilee Rooms. LS added that relocation was only due to less attendees and if numbers increased the class could return to Village Hall.</p> <p>SR said it was good that the hall is supported by friends and family hiring for private events and may we look forward to other bookings.</p>	
<p>Parish Council Representative Report:</p> <p>AH reported that the Picture of King Charles was now in the village hall having been donated by the Parish Council.</p> <p>AH advised that the Village Hall Defibrillator provided by the Parish Council was still available and that the Parish Council were also responsible for its upkeep.</p> <p>AH welcomed ideas on how to relay Village Hall information via the village website.</p>	
<p>Election of Officers</p> <p>SV confirmed she will be standing down as Chairperson but will remain on the Social Committee.</p> <p>SR said she was happy to remain as Booking Secretary unless someone else wanted to step in.</p> <p>Chair: Bella Lagnado. Proposed by Claire Smith and Seconded by Gaynor Watts. Secretary: Fiona Hillman. Proposed by Sue Vickery and Seconded by Andy Hillman. Treasurer: Julia Bull. Proposed by Liz Lockley and Seconded by Tim Watson. Bookings Secretary: Claire Smith. Proposed by Bella Lagnado and Seconded by Di Cleal</p> <p>FH to inform Charity Commission of changes in Trustees. PH stated that the Committee will require at least 3.</p>	
<p>Any Other Business:</p> <p>BR enquired who were the members of the Committee and SV requested all those present show themselves by standing up.</p>	

<p>PB expressed thanks to all Volunteers for their hard work.</p> <p>FH expressed thanks to Brian Cleal for volunteering and constructing a new village hall gate and to Andy Hillman for jet washing the paths and his continued support in maintaining the village hall garden.</p> <p>DS expressed his gratitude to SV and SR for all their involvement and hard work over the years and how the hall had progressed for the better over the last few years.</p> <p>CS thanked all those who donated to the Solar Panel Just Giving page. So far, a total of £1,396 has been achieved and the site is still active.</p>	
<p>Dates of Next Meetings:</p> <p>Annual General Meeting – Tuesday 12 May at 7.00pm in the Village Hall.</p> <p>SV thanked all for coming and the meeting closed at 8.07pm</p> <p>ADDENDUM to the Minutes – Isle Abbotts PCC Report (attached below)</p>	

Approved *Bella Lagnado*

Date *12th May 2026*

THE CHURCH OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, ISLE ABBOTS

Secretary's Report to the Annual Parish Committee Meeting, Thursday 22nd May 2025 in the Church

We thank our Rector, Revd Philip Albrow for his untiring work amongst the 8 churches in our Benefice. With the help of visiting Readers and Clergy we now hold a service every Sunday and we thank all those involved. Our thanks also go to Barbara and Liz who lead our Parish Lay Led Service on the first Sunday of each month and to our Churchwarden Tony for his work during the past year.

Our farming services throughout the year prove popular. Plough, Rogation, Lammas and Harvest, especially Harvest which once again was held in the Barn at Northalls Farm followed by lunch. Thank you Tony for arranging this and for the time taken to prepare the Barn. We also held an enjoyable Hymns & Pimms afternoon service in June.

We hosted two joyous weddings last summer and more recently a Baptism.

The Carol Service is always popular with presents left around the Christmas tree being donated to the Yeovil Centre for homeless young adults.

Again, the church has been blessed with a band of willing helpers who have continued to keep the church, Jubilee Room and churchyard clean and tidy and we would like to thank everyone who carried out these tasks. Also thanks to all the sidesmen, music players, coffee makers and bellringers who all contribute to making our worship enjoyable. Thanks to Liz for organising the flower arranging team and as always the displays have been beautiful during the past year. We are grateful to Liz and Lesley for forwarding our contributions for the Isle Valley News and for Susan who represents the church on the village hall committee.

We are thankful for the help of the villagers who support our various fund raising efforts and to the village choir for their contribution from their funds. We are grateful to the Village Hall committee who have allowed us to use the village hall and equipment for free again. A big thank you to Peter Watts who is now retiring from organising the 100 Club over 12 years raising much needed funds. Thanks also to Martin and his band of helpers running railway events.

The organ is currently under restoration. The Barrel Organ has now been treated for woodworm and a new cog end made to one of the Barrels. Thanks to Peter Evans who has undertaken this work for free.

We also thank Derold and Nick who open and close the church every day allowing the building to be enjoyed by everyone as a place of worship, for quiet contemplation and for visitors to the village to enjoy the splendid architecture.

Barbara Rickitt
Secretary Isle Abbots PCC
22nd May 2025