

PEASENHALL ASSEMBLY HALL  
Registered Charity Number 34808

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2025 at 7:00pm

**MINUTES**

Present: Jane Collins (Chair), Lisa Eveleigh (Secretary) Carol Potter (Treasurer), Sue Pipe, Zoe Horlock, Frank Potter, Martyn Burnside, Joanna Saunders

3 Members of the Public

**1. Apologies**

Apologies were received from Cheryl Baldry

**2. Welcome**

The Chairman of the Management Committee Jane Collins welcomed members of the public

**3. Minutes of the AGM on 10<sup>th</sup> June 2024**

The minutes of the 2024 AGM were approved as an accurate record and signed.

**4. Chairman's Report**

Please see this at the end of the Minutes.

**5. Treasurer's Report**

Please see this at the end of the Minutes.

**6. Film Club Report – Peasehall Picture Palace**

Martyn Burnside reported on this. The film club season takes place on the 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of the month, and we currently have a license with Moviola. Audience numbers average 23 – 36 is our highest attendance – and we need more than 20 attendees to make a profit. Moviola is quite expensive, and Martyn is investigating changing back to MPLC on a different basis to the licence we previously had with them.

Local businesses have generously donated good prizes to the raffle at each event. Martyn thanked Jane Collins, Sue and Robin Pipe, Zoe Horlock and Laurence Moss for their help over the past year.

## **7. Public Forum**

John O'Connor said he was impressed by the continued efforts of the Trustees to put on popular and fund-raising events and wondered if the Chairman's report might be included in The Yoxmere Fisherman.

Cllr Barry Rowing asked if there has been any progress on a possible extension to the Hall. e Chairman Jane Collins replied that although architect Lucy Mobbs had done some drawings for these, the cost was prohibitive. The Hall at present does have its limitations, including no disabled toilet.

She added that Allan Dale of Sibton Parish Council is keen to discuss collaborating on a shared village hall on the site of the Playing Fields and that she was meeting him and a representative of ESC shortly but a business case for this would need to be strong. Cllr Rowing commented that the Parish Council have not used the Hall for their meetings during the winter months because of the cold, and he had hoped that an extension would provide a winter venue. He was sure funds would be available to improve our Hall from Sizewell C since the A1120 is going to be affected by construction traffic and suggested that Mr Dale's interest in a joint Village Hall project might be based on securing the money for play equipment which Peasehall Parish Council has.

Frank Potter said that the extension would cost £80-£100k which is a huge amount to find. Carol Potter pointed out that an extension would alter the footprint of the Hall and if we do ever lose the parking space it would not be feasible.

John O'Connor asked if the Bowls Club are aware of the car-park issue since it would affect them (and the tennis club) as well. There are some influential members of the Bowls Club who might bring pressure to bear on saving it for us. Frank Potter said it might be worth talking to the Council about securing it long-term and Cllr Rowing wondered if we might consider a Compulsory Purchase order with the support of the Sports Clubs.

Cllr Rowing asked if the Positive Peasehall banners still existed. Frank Potter said he would look in the loft. (Lisa Eveleigh thinks that Steve Pewsey had these and may have disposed of them when he left the Village).

Finally, Cllr Rowing said how helpful it has been to borrow the Hall's projector as asked if Martyn Burnside or Laurence Moss could write a crib sheet with instructions for set up and use.

## **8. Officers standing down and Election of Chair for AGM**

All the present officers stood down prior to the Elections at the Management meeting to follow.

Carol Potter proposed Jane Collins as Chair for the Management Meeting and Lisa Eveleigh seconded this.

**9. Meeting Closed**

The Chairman thanked the members of the public who attended and closed the AGM before the Management Meeting.

Signed by.....  
Jane Collins

**PEASENHALL ASSEMBLY HALL**  
*Registered Charity Number 304808*  
**Chairman's Report June 2025**

There are currently nine trustees who make up the committee.

Over the last year we have worked extremely hard at putting on a variety of events to hopefully appeal to a wide cross section of the community. We have also supported regular hirers of the hall.

**The Current Hirers** of the hall include:

- Tai Chi
- Personal trainer sessions
- Clubbercise.
- Pilates
- Life Drawing
- The Monthly Pop-up Café.
- Monthly Parish Council Meetings (summer months)
- Peasehall United Charity Trust Christmas Lunch for the Elderly.

**Hirers no longer using the Hall:**

- Bingo
- DanceFit

**Events organised by the committee.**

- Monthly Pop-up Pub
- Monthly Film Night. I would like to take this opportunity to say a special thanks to Laurence Moss, who is not on the committee but helps set up and operates the technical aspect of the film night. We are extremely grateful for all his help and support.
- Craft Club (1st & 3<sup>Rd</sup> Monday of the month)
- Makers Market.
- String Quartet Concerts. Many thanks to John O'Connor for organising these very successful and well-attended events.
- Quiz Night
- Wine tasting by Casa-Sera Wines.
- Strictly Come Dancing Final on the Big Screen (Poor attendance)
- Tour of Britain Cycle Race – refreshments and decorate your bike competition. We also secured funding for a bike rack.
- Christmas Wreath making session.

Putting on events is obviously crucial to raising funds which we then use to put towards the upkeep of the hall. But it's also a very important aspect is the role the hall plays in bringing our community together. We are mindful that the hall is for everyone to use and share, and we would really like to hear from the community how they would like to see it used. We are always open to suggestions and new ideas.

**Upkeep of the Hall**

Following on from last year's programme of improvements and repair, we continue to make progress.

- All the remaining incandescent light bulbs have now been replaced with LED bulbs.
- CCTV cameras and solar powered lights have been fitted outside the hall.
- The audio-visual system has been replaced and upgraded.
- We now have WIFI in the hall, free for everyone to use.
- New curtains have been made and fitted at both entrance points. This will hopefully help with exclude draughts. Our thanks to Corina (Little Upholsterer) for all her help, support and time.
- A new notice board has been made for outside the Hall.
- Outside drains have been flushed out and a camera used to check for structural damage
- A Defibrillator has been fitted outside kitchen wall.
- New infra-red heaters have been fitted, replacing the old coin operated ones.
- Additional insulation has been purchased and will be fitted in the ceiling void within the next two weeks.
- Carpark and outside area have been tidied up.

**Things we have not progressed with:**

- EV charging points due to us not owning the carpark and therefore access to where they could have been positioned.
- Plans to upgrade / extend the hall. We need to consider what is realistically feasible and the success in grant applications will be key to these plans. It would be nice to upgrade the toilets and kitchen and there some potential grants coming available which we will consider applying for

**Successful grant Applications.**

- Funding from ESC (Fit Villages) to organise chair-based Pilates for the not so mobile. The classes seemed to get a good response, but unfortunately did not continue as the instructor was unable to continue.
- Funding from SCC to go towards cost of running WIFI for the first year. Thanks to Councillor Burroughes for his support.
- Heveningham Hall Country Fair Charity provided funding (£1800) which went towards the curtains.
- Financial support from PPC to go towards the defib.

We are only a small team of volunteers and would always welcome anyone who would like to join us as a trustee. If you feel you don't have the time or the inclination to be on a committee but would like to volunteer just to help at events etc., again, we would also love to hear from you.

I would like to thank all the trustees for their support and hard work over the last year and the support we have received from many in the community.

AGM Treasurer's Report for financial year 2024 – 2025 by Carol Potter

Income was just over £11,000, this breaks down to £4,160 hall lettings, £200 from the old coin electric meters, £3,470 fund raising and almost £3,300 in donations or grants.

Our expenditure totalled £23,200. Outside of our normal running costs we made almost £17,000 in repairs and improvements. These include, £3,800 for the new path along the side of the hall, £2,500 in electrical work, £1,500 for hard wiring of permanent speakers, £2,400 for curtains and poles and £5,000 for half the cost of the new heaters, the remainder of this cost will come from this year's budget.

Our annual running costs are approx. £6,000 per year and if we discount donations and grants, we made £7500 from hall lettings and fund raising alone.

We ended the financial year with £36,500. This is a decrease of almost £12,000 from the previous year.