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**PAUNTLEY PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting**  
**as Sole Trustees of Pauntley Village Hall (Charity Number 301598)**  
**Held on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> January, 6.30pm in Pauntley Village Hall**

**Present:** Cllrs Paul Eastabrook (in the chair); J Barratt; A Robbins; N Fowke.

**In attendance:** Rachel Freestone - Clerk  
Andrew Stewart – VH Committee

**Public:** 2

**1. To receive and accept apologies for absence.**

Apologies had been received and accepted from Cllr P Kucharski.

**2. To receive any declarations of interest or written applications for dispensation from Councillors on agenda items.**

There were none.

**3. Open Session:**

A member of the public commented on how dangerous the quarry tiles are to the entrance of the Village Hall. This was noted.

**4. Minutes:** Members considered the minutes from the Trustees Meeting held on the 10<sup>th</sup> November 2025. **It was RESOLVED:** to approve the minutes as a true record of the meeting. They were duly signed by the Chair.

**5. Village Hall Committee Report:**

a. Members considered the Village Hall Report (previously circulated).

Cllr Barratt commented on the items in the Village Hall report.

- The Annual Health and Safety inspection has been carried out with necessary repairs completed.
- Thanks given to both Michel and Andrew for all their support with the grounds maintenance.
- Priorities for 2026/27 to be reviewed at the next committee meeting.
- 2026/27 draft budget to be presented at the next meeting. **Action:** Cllr Barratt to meet with the clerk.
- Bookings are down year on year due to the loss of regular Pilates hall hire. The team are looking at alternative clubs and waiting to see if Pilates will return after maternity leave.
- Donation of the fee for the tv licence gratefully received from Pauntley Real Ale. This will enable sporting events etc to be shown. **Action:** Clerk to advise.
- Currently looking at cosmetic rather than material changes to the toilets. *A member of the public asked how much for a refurbishment?* Basic refurbishment around £2k.
- Recent events held have been very successful. Lots of volunteers and thanks to all of them. New events to include a Burns Night Supper, Five Village Film Festival and Rugby screenings.
- Need a new walk leader for the twice monthly village walks. *A member asked if the walks are informal group or VH organised and whether insurances in place if VH organised.* They are advertised in the newsletter so VH organised. Consideration given to insurance or get people to sign a disclaimer. **It was RESOLVED:** Cllr Robbins to contact Ramblers Association and report as soon as possible.

**6. Village Hall Maintenance:**

a. To receive an update on maintenance requirements: *A member asked whether the plans for a new toilet area have been stopped now?* Cllr Barratt responded that it had been confirmed as limited what can be done in the space. The original plan was a large project and the reality is that the finances are not available. The planning permission expired in December 2024. Focussing on refurbishments that do not require planning permissions. *A member of public added that need new toilet seats in the short term. A member of the public asked if anyone had approached local businesses for funding and support?* No. **Action:** VH Committee to address.

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**7. Village Hall Health and Safety:**

- a. Item addressed in Agenda item 3 and 5a.

**8. Village Hall Grounds Maintenance:**

- a. To receive a report on the grounds maintenance. Cllr Barratt confirmed that Cllr Kucharski is maintaining a maintenance diary. **Action:** add a review to the agenda for the next meeting. Action: Quarry tiles at the entrance to be added as an item that needs addressing. Cllr Barratt added that Andrew Stewart had donated a new automatic lawn mower to the Hall. He was thanked for his support. The machine has been put away for the winter.

**9. Finance**

- a. Members NOTED the Bank Reconciliation and Bank Statements from 1<sup>st</sup> November to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025 with a total balance of £23015.67.
- b. Members NOTED progress with the move from Lloyds TSB to the Co-op Bank. The Clerk informed members that the Co-op have queried the Charity Commission amendment dates which state Feb, March and May 2009. The amendment was in February with it resolved at a public meeting in March and the Parish Council Annual meeting in May.
- c. Members NOTED that the EDF Direct Debit will reduce to £62.26 monthly from February 2026.
- d. Members received a report on the move from EDF to Octopus Energy. **Action:** The Village Hall Committee to look at the options and inform the clerk of action required.
- e. Members NOTED the £2443 moved to an Earmarked reserve from 100 Club profits in 2023, 2024 and 2025.
- f. **It was RESOLVED:** To approve the following invoice for payment:
- Pauntley Parish Council – Clerks hours to March 31<sup>st</sup> 2026 £760.76
- g. **It was RESOLVED:** To ratify the following payments made between meetings:
- 100 Club December prizes £159.00
- h. **It was RESOLVED:** To ratify the following regular payments made between meetings:
- EDF – November and December DD £162.00
  - WaterPlus – November and December DD £47.30
- i. **Members NOTED the income received:**
- Hall Hire £321.00
  - Deposits Coffee Morning £251.00
  - 100 club £24.00
  - Skittles £42.00
  - Film Night £377.52
  - Fundraising £7.86
  - Electricity contribution £10
  - Credit Interest £21.62
- j. Members NOTED no virements made between accounts.

**10. Website:**

- a. Members considered the Village Hall current website. **It was RESOLVED:** Andrew Stewart to set up an account in PC/VH name in order for the domain to be transferred over. Quoakle have confirmed that transfer of the domain will be free of charge. Andrew Stewart added that once set up he will ask for photos and memories to be added.

**11. Meeting Dates:**

- a. Members considered the meeting dates for 2026/27 to coincide with the parish council. **It was RESOLVED:** 27<sup>th</sup> April Annual Parish Meeting; 18<sup>th</sup> May AGM; 13<sup>th</sup> July; 14<sup>th</sup> September; 9<sup>th</sup> November; 11<sup>th</sup> January 2027; 8<sup>th</sup> March.

**12. Correspondence:**

There is none

*A member of the public commented on the SumUp machine and the requirement to pay on mobile phone apps. They expressed concern over the event in November where the payment was sent to the RDA then*

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*moved to the Village Hall.* A member responded that they had been unable to get the app to work if already set up with another SumUp account and that had been the only option at that event. The team are working to find a solution and hoping to source an ipad to use.

**13. Next meeting: To note Agenda Items for the Parish Council Trustees Ordinary Meeting on March 9th 2026, 6.30pm.** Draft Budget, Maintenance Diary, Website

Signed...*Paul Eastabrook* ..... Date:...09.03.2026....

Chair

**The meeting closed at 19.22**