



**CHARITY COMMISSION NO. 294673**

**TO PROMOTE THE PERMANENT PRESERVATION FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE GENERAL PUBLIC AND THE INHABITANTS OF THE PARISH OF ASHWELL, LANDS AND BUILDINGS OF BEAUTY OR HISTORIC INTEREST, ECOLOGICAL OR SCIENTIFIC IMPORTANCE WITHIN THE PARISH, AND GENERALLY TO PROTECT AND PRESERVE THE CHARACTER AND AMENITIES OF THE PARISH FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PUBLIC.**

**Minutes of the AGM of the trustees of the Ashwell Village Trust  
held on 31 January 2024, 7.00pm in the Parish Room.**

**Present:** Graham Lee (Parish Council Chairman and, in accordance with the trust deed, Chairman of the trustees), Amanda Bettany (trustee), Simon Bettany (trustee and Hon Treasurer), Gordon Hill (trustee), Liz Moynihan (trustee), Claire Moynihan (trustee), Jane Porter (trustee, in her own right, and Parish Clerk). One member of the public was also in attendance.

1. **Apologies for absence.** The following were noted, David Sims (Parish Council appointed trustee), Vinny Hall (Parish Council appointed trustee); both had other commitments.
2. **Minutes.** A proposal was made, and seconded, to approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 28 June 2022; this was accepted. See appendix A. **Action: JP/GL**
3. **Trustees and the Trust Deed.** *To note the current trustees and agree any proposed changes.* The resignation of Amanda Bettany as a trustee was noted; she was thanked for her input. It was agreed that the number of trustees would henceforth be eight, ie no replacement would be sought.
4. **Financial and Governance matters.**
  - 4.1 *To note the Hon Treasurer's report and accounts.* These were noted and a proposal made, and seconded, that they be approved; this was accepted. The Hon Treasurer reported that income had been boosted by higher interest rates and a legacy. The regular donation from a parishioner had again been received and the claim for Gift Aid had been successful.
  - 4.2 *To review the insurance and risk assessment documents and agree any updates/amendments to the following (i) Health & Safety Policy Statement, (ii) Management and Risk Assessment Policy, (iii) Cottage Garden risk assessment.* No changes were proposed re items (i) and (ii). CM agreed to undertake a risk assessment with the leader of the Cottage Garden volunteers. **Action: CM**
5. **Cottage Garden.** *To consider any matters and agree any actions.*
  - 5.1 The leader of the volunteer group, Martyn Hird, was again commended. It was agreed that LM would write a letter of appreciation to him. **Action: LM**

Signed

Date

**5.2** The current condition of the two wooden seats following inappropriate treatment some years ago was noted. It was agreed that no action was necessary but they would continue to be monitored.

**6.** *To consider any matters of report from previous meetings and agree any actions.*

**6.1** It was reported that a change in charitable status to an 'Incorporated Charitable Organisation' had been considered by other local charities and might have benefits for the AVT. It was agreed that information be circulated with a view to this being discussed at the next meeting if trustees wished.

**Action: JP**

**7.** *Proposal for the date of the next meeting.* It was agreed that this be held on Wednesday 12 June 2024 at 7pm.

**Meeting closed at 7.55pm**

**Jane Porter**

**Clerk Ashwell Parish Council, Office at Bear Farm, 6A Back Street, Ashwell, Baldock, Herts, SG7 5PE**

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**<https://www.ashwell.gov.uk/ashwell/ashwell-village-trus/>**

*Signed*

*Date*