

**Meeting of the Ashampstead Recreational Trust
held in Ashampstead Village Hall
on 5th February 2024 at 7.30pm**

MINUTES

Present: John George (chair), Emma Goodman, Graham Light, Paula Walton, Grant Tuff, Caroline Butler and Trudi Butcher

Member of the public present: Helen Bartlett

1. Apologies for Absence: James Bartlett and James Hole

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

these were approved and signed.

3. Matters Arising

Asbestos Register - ART will check through old minutes to locate the whereabouts of any asbestos in the village hall to produce a schedule to show future contractors where it is.

4. Village Pub Nights

Owing to the lack of customers at the beginning of last week's Pub Night, it was decided that the event will revert to opening at 7pm during winter months and open earlier at 6pm from May onwards. Each Pub Night will continue to finish at 10pm.

5. ART Finances

As the Treasurer was unable to attend the meeting, this will be deferred to the next meeting.

6. Playground Update

Phase I has been completed and children have already playing on the new ship.

Now that Phase I has been completed, the village needs to start raising money for Phase II. ART will look at available grants push the JustGiving page on the Ashampstead WhatsApp page to get donations from village residents.

Phase II might need planning permission and ART needs to check with West Berks Council.

7. Quiz Update

The quiz, held on the 13th January, was very successful and made a profit of £647. A future quiz would be better held in April when people were not distracted by Christmas and there was a message in the Leaflet to remind people to buy their tickets. The profits of the raffle went to Berkshire Women's Aid.

8. Possible Future Events – all need further discussion

Midsummer Jamboree - a summer event, possibly in June, with food stalls, entertainment and games.

Open Gardens 2025 - to be discussed further after the summer event.

Pub Night - to support Simon Cromack's JustGiving Page

Village Dog Show - in autumn 2024 or summer 2025. The exact timing needs to be discussed.

Hallowe'en Pub Night - A fancy-dress competition at the November Pub Night (2nd November) with 'spooky' food.

Festive Windows - a competition where people dress their windows around the village with a prize for the favourite one, culminating in a drinks party at the December Pub Night.

Pop-up Drive-in Cinema - held on Flower's Piece with people watching a film from their parked cars. Drinks and refreshments can be purchased.

9. Upgrade of Hall Sound System

The hall speaker system needs looking at, with a view to finding a better solution to connect devices to the current speaker/amplifier system. This would also make it easier to use it for music on Pub Nights.

10. Any Other Business

a) Loyalty cards for the Pub Nights have been discussed. A card would be stamped each time the owner buys a drink at Pub Night. Once they have been to five Pub Nights, their first drink at the sixth Pub Night they attend would be free. Rules will apply.

b) The James Grieve apple tree bought for celebrate the Queen's Jubilee has been planted by Caroline and James B. next to the phone box. Villagers will be welcome to have the fruit once it appears.

c) Caroline and Trudi informed the meeting they both intend to step down at the AGM in July. This will leave two vacancies on ART which need to be filled.

11. Date of Next Meeting - Monday 25th March at 7.30pm

The meeting ended at 9.20pm