

Notes from minutes of Management Institute of Village Hall, 1975 – 1998

May 1975. Letter received from Mr Nott of Drayton Mill, East Meon, stating that he was bewildered by the proceedings at the AGM on May 1st 1975 ... 'under what section of the Constitution were the following apparently extraordinary irregularities allowed to take place?'. Names put forward by the Chairman with unconstitutional partiality, neither proposed or seconded. A proposal for the third vacancy came, quite incredibly, from the Chair.

Mr Emery, HCCS, noted in response: 'There is no legally-defined procedure for voting, which is governed by the Trust Document (Constitution) and common sense. It would have been better if all candidates had been proposed and seconded, and one election held for all three vacancy. Also said that it would be most undesirable to co-opt someone and then elect him Chairman.

This was discussed at meeting of **16th May 1975**. At this meeting, the Rev R.Smith declined to stand as Chairman, and Leal Wyatt was elected.

April 6th, 1976. Chairman Leal Wyatt, Vice Tony Crockford, Treasurer Mrs Brook, Booking Secretary Mrs Ryder, Mr L Blackman, caretaker, resigns his position.

Minutes for the next ten years are very sparse. The only item of note was a request that the Hall be booked for Jubilee celebrations for free, Jan 1977, tickets for the draw to cost 2 1/2 p and that the profit therefrom was £655.00.

The Management Committee continued to organise social events such as dances and bingo. Grass cutting now requires Committee attention. F.G. Standfield and then G.W.Atkinson become Chairman.

X16 Folder containing minutes 1980 – 1991

June 18th 1980. May Fair profit £655.87. Vicar asks for help from May Fair towards the upkeep of the Almshouses. No help at present. Parish Council asks again for two public conveniences on grounds of Hall, rejected.

July 5th 1982. May Fair result £789.04.

Feb 7th 1983. Police threaten to withdraw Hall licence because of bad behaviour.

July 9th 1984. May Fair result £663.40p.

Sept 3rd 1984. Insurance covers increased to £135,000.

June 24th 1985. May fair total £993.50p

Feb 3rd 1986. Glebe strip used as car park, with permission from Mr Tosdevine.

June 1st 1987. Approximately £1,000 made by May Fair, though some thought something different should be tried next year. Not agreed.

March 1st 1988. Boiler quote £4,250 plus VAT. Copy sent to Winchester for possible grant.

June 13th 1988. Grant of £1,500 received. (from Winchester?)

Dec 12th 1988 Who owns the ditch? No detailed plans of Hall grounds found ...

Sept 15th 1990 Architect report on essential repairs agreed at £2,710 plus VAT. Possible grant and support from Parish Council.

Oct 20th 1990. 'Plaything' on Village Hall grounds rejected.

March 21st 1991. Grant of 31,500 from EHDC towards outside repairs.

April 26th 1991. Committee meeting and AGM. Lively meeting! Vote 23 to 12 in favour of play area, but final vote by Committee on 14th May.

May 14th 1991. Full details of proposed play area organisation. Committee finally votes 7 – 6 in favour. Considerable split on use of Hall land for play area.

X17 Folder containing minutes 1992 – 1998 (*oldest minutes at back of folder – work from back to front*)

April 21st 1992. Events proposed for May Fair

May 25th 1992. Rory Bremner asked to help in Painting Competition at May Fair.

29th September 1992 Decision to re-brand May Fair as Country Fair ([Click here](#) for account of development of Country Fair.)

11th September 1993. Progress report of plans for Country Fair

April 28th 1993. Chairman's report – concern over finances in Recession.

June 8th 1993. Report on great success of Country Fair. £1,000 set aside for next year's event.

28th April 1994 20th Anniversary on 25th February 1925. Focal point for fund-raising for Village Hall. So what do we do?

AGM. Brigadier John Simpson's speech explaining how he came to be elected as Chairman. Keith Rockett, Deputy Chair, had resigned because of commitments as headmaster of large school.

Tribute to Susan Davenport for transforming the May Fayre into the Country Fair.

Further proposals for the 20th Anniversary.

June 7th 1994. Susan Davenport proposes that funds from 1994 Country Fair should go towards purchase of field between the Hall and Glebe Strip which might be up for sale.

Treasurer's report - - profit on May Fair of £5,300.15p

July 11th 1994. Idea for 100/200/500 Club to raise funds; decided on 500 Club. Proposal to mark 25th Feb 1995 as 20th Anniversary of Hall opening.

October 10th 1994. 200 Club now a 250 Club. £1.00 tickets, 4 draws a year, 2 tickets per draw. First draw on 25th Feb 1995.

October 1994. Accident at Fair, greasy pole. Compensation claim possibilities. 25th Anniversary, Chairman (John Simpson) would give a party.

December 14th 1994. Update on 250 Club – 32 applicants so far. Update on Anniversary.

April 27th 1995. Profits from Country Fair to go towards purchase of next door field. Housing developers have an option (but EHDC has turned down application, appeal pending).

Update on legal aspects of accident at 1994 May Fair.

June 1995. 1994 May Fair profit £4,000. Now a county-recognised event.

Jan 4th 1996. New Year's Even extravaganza great success.

April 19th 1996 AGM. Over 250 members of 250 Club.

June 4th 1996 Ruth Rendall filming returns.

October 15th 1996. Out-of-court settlement by insurance company for £3,000.

January 21st 1997. Blackmans offered to hire field for Country Fair for £100.

1996/7 Secretary's report (Charles Clayson) Hall had offered to surrender one metre's width of frontage to enable widening of Workhouse Lane. HCC Roads Dept said it had no money.

January 26th 1997. Meeting with Parish Council and owner regarding possible purchase of Kews Meadows. [Click here](#) for subsequent events at Kews Meadows.

Feb 19th 1998 250 Club to be reinstated.

March 24th 1998 (Chairman Tony Fry). AGM. Kews Meadows. Proposal from agent of Blackman Trust (owners of the land) to build 16 new houses – access via Duncomber road, plus 3 on south edge of Village Hall property, testing the water in anticipation of 2001 Local Plan. Parish Council had taken initial view it would not buy the land for a football pitch.