

# Badingham Village Hall

Low Street, Badingham, Woodbridge, Suffolk IP13 8JS

Registered Charity no. 304703

# VILLAGE MEETING

incorporating Badingham Village Hall AGM

**Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2022 at 7pm**

## AGENDA

This AGM is being run as a full village meeting because there is no properly constituted Village Hall Management Committee to run it

1. Welcome and apologies by the Chairman of the Parish Council
2. Minutes of the last Village Hall AGM and matters arising directly from them
3. Exceptional Report on the year by the Chairman of the Parish Council
4. Exceptional Financial Report by the Parish Clerk
5. Selection of an Option for the Future of the Village Hall (see overleaf for more detail)
  1. Elect new committee of Trustees  
*(To succeed, Option 1 must command a majority vote, then secure enough volunteers to form a new management committee)*
  2. Appoint Parish Council as sole trustee, and elect volunteers to serve on a new sub-committee  
*(If Option 1 fails, Option 2 must command a majority vote, then secure enough volunteers to form a new Parish Council sub- committee)*
  3. Select a third party to run the village hall  
*(If Option 2 fails, Option 3 requires at least one suitable willing organisation to step forward and there must then be a majority vote in favour of one organisation)*
  4. Letting or Sale of the village hall  
*(If Option 3 fails, Option 4 will succeed by default and the village much choose between letting or sale. A motion could be proposed to request the Parish Council to present a Business Case to support the village in making the decision at a follow-up meeting)*
6. Date of next AGM or Village Meeting

# Village Hall Times

Your number one local paper

## Village hall future in doubt?

There is doubt over the future of the village hall. After an extensive period of closure due to the pandemic, and a renovation project that took many months, the hall has re-opened.

But the village hall committee is on its last legs. There have been no new committee members since the last chairperson left the village, and it was left to just two committee members, to keep the hall running.

They are also now leaving the village and the hall cannot continue if there is no properly constituted committee.

The AGM is therefore sure to be a lively affair, where a discussion over the future of the village hall must take place. There are four options up for debate to secure its future.

The **first option** is that if people are willing to volunteer then they can be elected on to the existing committee and become trustees of the village hall. Then the new committee can run the hall under the existing terms.

If there are not enough volunteers and a vote for that the meeting will have to move to the **second option**.

The Parish Council can become the sole trustee and form a sub-committee to run the hall. Of course, this option too requires volunteers to sit on the sub-committee.

There are benefits to this idea. People come and go in a village but with the Parish Council as the sole trustee it gives some long-term security.

The Parish Council is not allowed to collapse, so the village hall will always have a safe custodian.

And with the Parish Council as trustee it's possible that the council's clerk could be employed to help with some of the administration, and the hall would be able to reclaim VAT, which it can't now.

The big downside is that the arrangement would need a costly new legal deed and constitution.

Also, such arrangements are normally seen as a stop gap. Successful halls are mainly run by motivated, commercially minded organisations.

If there are not enough volunteers and a vote for that, the meeting will have to move to the **third option**.

The meeting could authorise the Parish Council to transfer the hall to a third party. This could be a charitable organisation, or it could be a company who take on the management and run it as a business.

The remit would still be to provide a village hall for the benefit of the community, but any company would need to make some profit to be viable, which may mean increased hire fees.

This option would also need a new legal deed and management agreement. No such organisation has yet been identified and if none comes forward at the meeting, the meeting will need to move on to the **fourth and final option**.

Unpalatable though it is, if no one is willing to help run the hall, then all that's left is a vote by the village on whether the hall should be let, or sold, and the proceeds held in trust for future provision of aims benefitting the Parish of Badingham.

So it sounds like all interested villagers ought to attend the meeting -

THE VILLAGE HALL NEEDS  
THEIR HELP!!!