

The Radley Village Shop Association Limited

Minutes of AGM held on 21 May 2024 at 6.30 pm at Radley Church Room

Present:

Chairman	Andrew Walker
Treasurer	Lynda Pasquire Crowley
Secretary	Joyce Huddleston

Plus 15 Members of the Association and 3 non-members

1. Welcome from the Chairman

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the AGM.

2. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Judy Harris, John & Juli Parrott, Jenny Stead, Graham Steinsberg and Sue Ward.

3. Minutes of the AGM held on 17 May 2023

These were approved as a correct record (proposed: Amatsia Kashti; seconded: Bob Earl).

4. Matters arising

There were no matters arising from the Minutes.

5. Chairman's report

This is my second year as Chairman. My thanks to John Goodenough, our Shop Manager, the Committee and the other volunteers, all of whom worked so tirelessly during the year. We are constantly on the lookout for new volunteers, especially anyone who's just retired or planning their retirement. We particularly need a Rota Manager and someone to assist the Accounts Team with invoice processing.

The shop's trading position in 2023 was strong. Price variations from our suppliers were carefully monitored and sale prices adjusted accordingly to maintain our sales margins. We are, however, seeing stronger headwinds in 2024 due to higher energy costs and rising business costs.

The 2023 Social Event for volunteers took the form of a Summer Garden Party at my house in Radley last July. Despite the rain, the weather didn't dampen people's spirits and there were lots of smiling faces! Radley WI kindly catered for the event, with many positive comments about the wonderful food.

I'm delighted to report that the Shop maintained its coveted '5 Star' rating following an inspection by an Environmental Health Officer from the local authority in March. It was encouraging to see so many volunteers at the fire safety talk given by Mike Sadler, a past Chairman and now a Fire Safety consultant, in February – fire safety is an important topic both for the shop and home environment.

As part of its social outreach, the shop offered a work experience opportunity to a young lady with learning difficulties who, accompanied at all times by her dedicated support worker from the MacIntyre Charity, helped with cleaning and re-stocking the shelves.

In 2023 the Shop was able to award financial grants to nine organisations with a social or charitable purpose operating within the community it serves. I'm keen that the Shop continues to support local good causes, as long as a financial surplus allows, and there will be an opportunity later in the meeting to approve a recommendation that the shop again provides grants for village projects in 2024.

Finally, as many of you will already know, our previous Chairman and Operations Manager, Bob and Pat Earl, were both awarded the British Empire Medal in this year's New Years Honours List for their 'Services to the community of Radley'. Many congratulations to Bob and Pat!

6. Treasurer's report

The 2023 trading year was exceptional with a more than satisfactory net gain on the year. Turnover increased from £265,608 to £291,929 and the Gross Profit from £61,941 to £68,971; our overheads saw a modest increase from £52,494 to £54,598. All this together with an adjustment to the accruals from previous years increased

the net profit to £17,062 compared with £8,428 in 2022. Grants paid out in 2023 amounted to £1282, with a further £1000 reserved for distribution in 2024.

Following the retirement of the senior partner who previously audited our accounts, we are grateful to Ben Hayes at Wenn Townsend for agreeing to take over on a reduced fee basis (though larger than in previous years the fee is still less than the full commercial rate). As usual, a personal thank-you for all the hard work of Joyce Huddleston and Sue Ward whose help is invaluable and much appreciated. Graham Steinsberg receives our thanks for his continued overview of our financial accounts. I endorse the appreciation expressed by the Chairman for the efforts of our Shop Manager and dedicated team of volunteers who work so hard to make the shop a success.

7. Adoption of the Financial Statement

Tony Rogerson proposed and John Huddleston seconded the adoption, which was carried unanimously.

8. Adoption of motion to give the Management Committee discretion to appoint the Auditors until the conclusion of the next AGM

Lynda Pasquire Crowley proposed and David Mulholland seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

9. Adoption of recommendation that there should be an Accountant's report instead of a full Auditor's report

Carol Webster proposed and Pat Earl seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

10. Adoption of recommendation for grants for village projects up to a total of £1500

(i) Payment of grants: Andrew Walker proposed and Carol Webster seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

(ii) Management Committee authority: Amatsia Kashti proposed and Bob Earl seconded the motion to adopt the recommendation. This was carried unanimously.

11. Election of Management Committee until conclusion of next AGM

Christine O'Sullivan had resigned in October 2024 when she left the village and Carol Webster was standing down from the Committee. All remaining members of the Management Committee were eligible for re-election. Jackie Walker proposed and Richard Dudding seconded the motion to re-elect them. This was carried unanimously. The chairman thanked Carol for her continuing support for the Shop.

12. Any other business

(a) Responding to a question from Scilla Dudding, the Chairman explained that the very good surplus in 2023 had meant more could be made available for grants. The higher overheads, particularly energy costs, meant the surplus in 2024 would not be as good, although this would not affect the Shop's overall financial stability.

(b) It was agreed that the Church Room was a much more suitable venue for the AGM than the Village Hall.

(c) Tony Rogerson thanked the Chairman and all the Committee on behalf of all those who benefited from the Shop's presence in the village.

The Chairman thanked everyone for taking the time to attend the AGM and the meeting closed at 6:55 pm.