

Appleford Community Project AGM Tuesday 28 March 2023

1. Present: Katherine Andrews (chairman),Clare Bonham Carter (treasurer), Dave Andrews and Mary Hancock (secretary).

2. Accounts. Clare presented the accounts which included an analysis of the firework events over the past 9 years as well as details of our income and expenditure over the past year. (2022) We finished the year with a balance of £3052.94, sufficient to cover the anticipated expenses of 2023, fireworks, nativity etc, but indicating that in 2024 we will need a fund raising event. We were grateful to Clare for producing such a good financial statement.

3. Events in the past year:

The Queen's 70th Jubilee event in June 2022 was well supported and had a strong organising committee. We served prosecco and a special decorative cake (decorated like a huge union jack, and made by Frances Reid and Gill Holcombe) Entertainment was provided by a local band and the village choir, led by Charlotte Fisher. There was a beer tent, a plant stall that raised £211.15 for tree planting at the orchard (**we must spend this, Mary to contact Richard Lewington to choose trees**) Emily Andrews organised crown making which was very popular.

A village photograph was taken by Richard Lewington. This photograph was popular and we sold many copies

Fireworks 2022 Our previous firework contractor, Karl Michell- Stead of Illusion fireworks had become so successful that his prices were beyond us, so 2022 was the first year of a new contractor, Storm Fireworks. We were very pleased with Storm Fireworks and plan to use them in 2023.

Our event followed the normal formula. We served sausages in buns (more vegetarian and gluten free options in 2022) and the money raised from barbecue sales and tea and cake helped to offset the cost of the fireworks by about £500, to £989.48.

Donkey Nativity As in previous years, we served refreshments in the Gales farmyard at the end of the Donkey Nativity. This is a popular social event: we are grateful to receive donations of cake and mincepies and we provide mulled wine and fruit juice for the kids.

4. Proposed Events 2023

Coronation celebration: 8 May. We plan to sell teas from the village hall for Christian Aid, both on the field, take away and delivered at £5/tea, bookable in advance. People will be encouraged to eat their tea at the recreation ground and at 3.30pm we plan to toast the new King with a glass of prosecco provided by the ACP.

The Parish Council will support a bouncy castle, organised by Vicky Shepherd. Games will be encouraged on the field. **Katherine will see if Helens parents might be willing to run a plant stall.** Mary will put together some info for a flyer that Katherine is happy to prepare. **Katherine will check if Katie is happy to print flyers for this event.** We plan to deliver them to the houses in Appleford and also the new houses on the Didcot Road who might be pleased to cast up their allegiance with us. **(David to deliver them, will need perhaps an extra 30 flyers)**

Fireworks: Sunday 5 November 2023 The fireworks contract was signed at the meeting. A cheque for £375 (25% deposit) will be forwarded to Storm fireworks with the contract. **(Mary to post)** We are not pursuing the 'silent' fireworks as reports from other villages suggest they were not satisfactory. We plan to serve refreshments as in previous years.

Nativity: similar refreshments proposed.

5 Circulation: all present, Patrick Dearlove, Richard Lewington, Parish website

Mary Hancock, Secretary to the ACP