

UGBOROUGH SUSTAINABLE SATURDAYS

AGM

**Held on Saturday 29th September 2018
in Ugborough Village Hall**

Present:

Committee - Sarah Scanlon (Chair), James Scanlon (Treasurer), Vici Hemming (Volunteer Co-ordinator), Val Holman (Secretary)

Others present:

Ton Holway, Angela Hickman, Chris Weaving, Jenny Weaving, Sue Stewart, Michael Bolton, Jenny Bolton, Juliet Collis, Mike Holman, Sue Williams, Kate Brampton, Yvonne Annear, Flo Crossman

Apologies:

Amanda Anderson

Sarah (Chair) opened the meeting by thanking those present for attending, and gave the following report:

When we first hatched out a plan to create somewhere for people to buy and sell or even barter produce on a fortnightly basis, our main thoughts were to keep it local and sustainable. The word **sustainable** was and still is the most important concept and this has developed organically over the last 5 years. We are all delighted that the market has sustained its existence for so long and looks like it will keep going for many years to come.

We never set out to make a profit with this venture. Producers pay a very small amount to sell and sometimes this covers the rent of the hall and sometimes it doesn't. The cafe sells drinks at a very reasonable price and the Bring and Buy table allows people to place whatever they can afford into a donation jar. As the Treasurer will say in his report, USS does make enough money to be able to help local causes and charities and the figures are wonderful, over £3022 since we began. Therefore we can see that USS is financially sustainable. But there is far more to it than just money. Our lovely producers have given customers a variety of high quality goods that people want to buy and this has kept the money within the community and not to the giant supermarket chain.

Every fortnight we see new faces mingling with both producers and customers. It is so lovely to see people coming for a coffee and staying for 2 hours to have a chat and meet old and new friends. We have watched families growing and blossoming and now the children are independent shoppers holding their pocket money tightly to purchase a cake or something from the Bring and Buy table. The table is a fantastic place to recycle items. One person's junk is another person's treasure and we see this every time as somebody kindly donates an item and somebody else picks it up. We have been fortunate to be given some wonderful books and items and we thank you for your generosity. Now one of our producers has ventured into selling recyclable bin bags for our rubbish and this fits perfectly with USS and its main principles.

If you look up the definition of sustainable it says "causing little or no damage to the environment and therefore able to continue for a long time". Sustainable development is the development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

There is a feeling within the hall that USS is an integral part of the community now and there would be a large hole if it no longer existed. This is due to a group of dedicated volunteers and I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone. Lastly I would like to say a very big thank you to James, who for the past 5 years has taken on the role of Treasurer. We really appreciate how he has quietly kept the wheels turning so smoothly. James deserves a well earned rest and he has promised that he will still pop in for coffee.

Sarah then handed a big box of chocolates and a card signed by everyone present on the day to James as a thank you for his hard work and dedication over the last 5 years.

James (Treasurer) gave the following report:

USS cash resources are as follows.....

2017/18 opening balance on 2nd Sep 2017 = £1,963.77

As of 1st Sep 2018

Bank balance: -	£1329.30
Cash in hand : -	£0000.00
Balance of accounts: -	£1234.21
Café float: -	£0100.00
TOTAL monies :-	£1329.30

Our bring and buy table donations are usually on a 3 monthly basis for local charities. Nominations for local charities are welcome from anyone wishing to do so. Here is this year's list of all donations made by USS.

12 October 2017	donations to village hall	£200.00
30 October 2017	Shoebox appeal	£55.50
23 Dec 2017	B&B Table OAP Party	£216.00
17 March 2018	donation to village website	£25.00
09 June 2018	donation to RDA charity	£167.00
04 August 2018	donations to village hall	£750.00
31 August 2018	donations to village hall	£222.32

TOTAL DONATIONS from B&B table and USS funds for 2017/18 = £1635.82

Café sales for year = £892.36

Outgoing expense for café supplies = £358.88

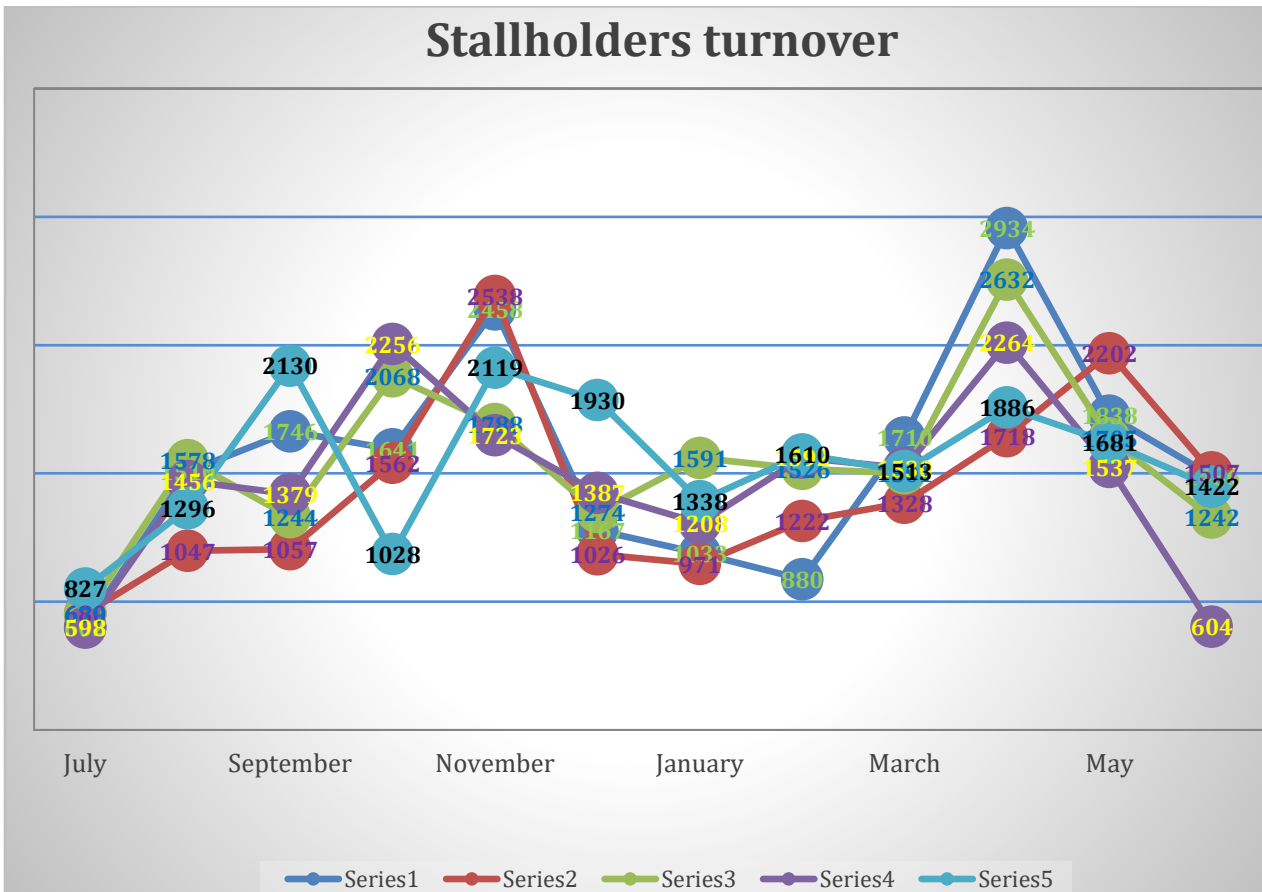
Our Café sales are a little lower than previous years due in main to our offering free refreshments to our stall holders during their setup time and a recent market of free refreshments to all celebrating our 5th anniversary.

Various expenses throughout this year were our fliers for 2018 (£60) which was a cost shared with ESS making a saving for both markets. Replacement Mugs for the café were required to replace some missing or broken ones. (£136.30). Money was offered to the village newsletter but they declined the offer as their new printer is more economical and their finances are OK at the moment.

We may have to look at investing in some new USS banners as the old ones are showing their age, and some new tablecloths. Our finances are healthy enough to cope with that. It's our intention to carry on with the B&B table with the funds going to any good causes anyone cares to submit.

The graph below depicts the 5 years USS has been operating and the various peaks and troughs show the trend of the sales our stallholders earn throughout the year. The peaks depict higher sales pre-Christmas and Easter times.

Stallholders turnover



Throughout the 5 years our stallholders sales year by year are as follows : -

Year1	Year2	Year3	Year4	Year5
£19,005.00	£16,858.00	£18,828.00	£17,534.00	£18,780.00

Over the 5 years the total amount taken by stallholders was £91,005.00

Should anyone care to examine the accounts a copy is available at the AGM from myself in either paper or electronic form.

Election of the Committee:

There has been one offer to take over as Treasurer as James is 'retiring'. Clive Hart is willing to take on the role. There were no offers from anyone to replace the rest of the current committee and therefore they were re-elected as follows:

Chair - Sarah Scanlon; proposed by Jenny Weaving, seconded by Juliet Collis
 Treasurer - Clive Hart; proposed by Sarah Scanlon, seconded by Kate Brampton
 Secretary - Val Holman; proposed by Tom Holway, seconded by Michael Bolton
 Volunteers Co-ordinator - Vici Hemming; proposed by Angela Hickman, seconded by Chris Weaving

Open Forum:

1. Angela Hickman wondered if 70p a mug for coffee was too cheap. The Treasurer said it covered costs and was affordable to all, so we will continue to sell at this price

2. A big thank you was proposed by all at the meeting to the Cafe ladies for their hard work
3. Bring & Buy Table, thanks to Kate for continually sorting, setting out and collecting donations
4. Chris Weaving was asked by Amanda the candles lady to say she enjoyed selling at USS because it has such a lovely atmosphere. This was echoed by Sue Stewart.
5. Mike Holman said thanks to the Committee and all associated with USS. The market is well supported by the village but he feels there is still a need to reach out to villagers who have never been. Discussion ensued and we will try "Bring a friend and have coffee on us" campaign.
6. Tom Holway has his Civic Service on 16th December in the church which will be a traditional carol service, and he said this would be particularly suitable for dementia sufferers. Please spread the word!

The meeting closed at 12:55