



AGM

**Held on Saturday 22nd October 2022
at 12:15 in the Village Hall**

Present:

Committee - Val Holman (Secretary), Juliet Collis (Treasurer), Graham Gilbert, Yvonne Angear

Others Present:

Philomena Jones, Mike Holman, Tom Holway, Jenny Weaving, Sarah Scanlon, Angela Hickman, Anne Cormack, Kate Brampton

Apologies:

Chris Matthews, Kay Hart, Kathryn Harries

Val (Secretary) welcomed everyone to the meeting and gave the following report:

Covid has a lot to answer for, and one of its casualties was the cancellation of many USS mornings. Our last USS before Covid was 14th March 2020. It was an unavoidable closure of course, but necessary in order to keep everyone safe. We took every precaution when we restarted to ensure safety with hand gel, a sign in book, one way entry and exit from the hall, and the requested wearing of masks, and we thank you all for adhering to the protocols. As part of the relaunch in September last year we designed and had new USS banners made locally, which are placed around the village a few days before each USS.

In July this year it was decided USS would take a break during the school holidays, and that proved to be a popular decision amongst the stallholders. The cafe continued to operate during the summer and thanks to all the helpers and washer-uppers for their efforts in making this work. We restarted USS on 10th September and have been encouraged by the visitor numbers since then.

The charitable Bring and Buy table was stopped during Covid and we have taken the decision not to restart this as it took a great deal of time to bring all the items to the

hall, set it all out, then pack it away at the end and take it all back to Kate's house until the next time. However, after a very successful morning with young Twm and his friend who made and sold milkshakes for their charity a few weeks ago, we will be extending an invitation to anyone who wishes to have a stall and raise money for their chosen charity to make contact and come along to USS. There will be no charge for the table space.

The increase in the price of what seems like every single thing we all buy is rather worrying, and our producers are all facing decisions about their pricing. It's certainly a balancing act between making sure they cover their costs, against not over-charging and frightening off their customers. Food producers not only have rising ingredient and energy costs to content with, but also increased costs for packaging which seems to have shot up in price recently. We are not planning on increasing stallholder table costs unless the village hall hire charges go up. If this happens we may be forced to rethink our pricing structure, but at the moment we don't need to do this, as we just about breakeven on the hall hire over the year.

We would like to extend a huge thank you to our loyal band of volunteers, including Jane and Henry who help set up the hall; Kate, Anne, Heather, Jennie, Annie and Chris who work the kitchen between them; Will who will always pitch in to help when required, and anyone else who helps in any way. We couldn't do a USS morning without you.

Big thanks to the Committee for their constant commitment to the cause - Juliet, Yvonne, Graham and our newest co-opted member, Chris. Well done team! Looking ahead to Christmas, we are planning to have free mince pies and a bit of a sing song on one of our December dates. And watch out for the hotly anticipated Pot Luck Supper in February.

Treasurer's Report from Juliet:

Juliet explained her report and answered questions about the figures. Tom Holway has kindly looked at the accounts and is happy with them. She said it was important to USS to give back to the community, and we regularly support not only the village hall, but also the Newsletter, and the village website. Juliet was congratulated on her excellent report and set of accounts, and we thank her for her hard work.

The Report as at 31st August 2022 below.

USS report from 1 Sep 2021 to 31 Aug 2022

Income & expenditure from 1 Sep 21 to 31 Aug 22		£
Stallholders' fees		714
Café sales		612
Westcountry tea profit		63
Interest		1
Total USS income		1,389
USS Expenditure		
Hall hire - USS	-	700
Café supplies	-	232
Trays	-	22
Face masks/COVID register	-	7
COVID signs and laminates	-	36
USS banners x 4	-	144
Buffalo coffee machine	-	135
USS donation to Newsletter Fund	-	100
USS donation to UgB.com hosting	-	25
Total USS expenditure	-	1,401
USS surplus/(deficit)	-	11

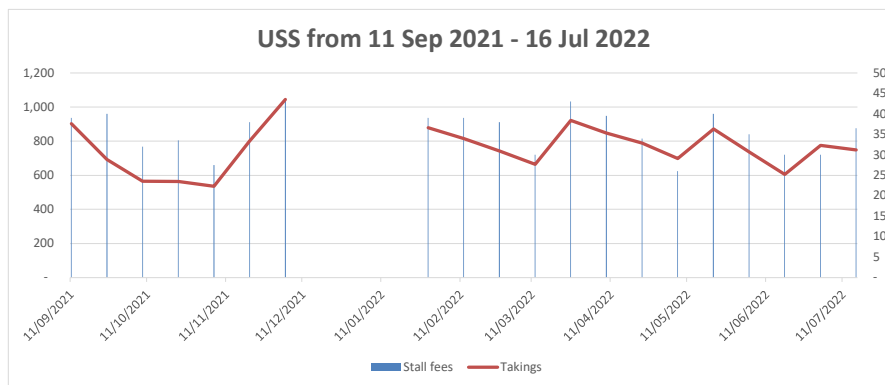
Cash & Bank as at 31 Aug 22		£
Cash		475
Bank - current a/c		740
Bank - deposit a/c		606
Less: due to V Hall pd Sep 22	-	90
Total		1,731
USS funds		
Funds b/f at Sep 21	1,157	
USS deficit	-	11
USS funds		1,146
Third party funds		
Christmas lunch 2019	20	
TLC balance	166	
SHDC grant post COVID	400	
Third party funds		586
		1,731

Market	Stall fees	Takings	Café sales
	£	£	£
11/09/2021	39	903	31
25/09/2021	40	693	25
09/10/2021	32	565	23
23/10/2021	34	564	26
06/11/2021	28	536	26
20/11/2021	38	801	28
04/12/2021	44	1,044	2
18/12/2021			
15/01/2022			
29/01/2022	39	879	50
12/02/2022	39	815	38
26/02/2022	38	742	34
12/03/2022	30	665	31
26/03/2022	43	922	24
09/04/2022	40	848	24
23/04/2022	34	789	42
07/05/2022	26	698	39
21/05/2022	40	871	32
04/06/2022	35	737	41
18/06/2022	30	605	22
02/07/2022	30	775	35
16/07/2022	37	749	27
Total	714	15,200	598

11/09/2021 - first USS since 14/03/2020
 COVID cancellation: 18/12/21, 15/01/22
 Summer break: 30/07, 13/08, 27/08
 Recommended on 10 September 2022

04/12/21 Christmas promotion with free drinks and mincepies

USS income generated		£
Stallholder surplus		14
Café surplus		379
Westcountry Tea profit		63
USS net income		456



Election of Committee:

The post of Chair will remain empty until someone comes forward to fill the vacancy. In the meantime we will continue to run USS as a Committee. All members are happy to remain in post. Chris Mathews was recently co-opted, and is officially part of the committee as of this AGM.

Any Other Business:

- **Advertising:** One of our stallholders has asked for this matter to be discussed. She is concerned that numbers are dropping and more advertising needs to be done. Presently, during a USS week, we have 4 big banners hung around the village, 1 large sign on the A3121 at the Ware Hill turn into the village, and 10 posters are currently on permanent display around the village. We advertise on Facebook (on our own USS page), Nextdoor, the village Bugle, our village Newsletter, Twitter & Instagram (thanks to Angela); on the ugborough.com website, and posters in South Brent and the Watermark in Ivybridge. Discussion ensued and it was agreed that the committee are doing all they can to get the message out locally, and that it is also up to stallholders to take responsibility to spread the word and encourage people to attend. It was suggested we could try loyalty cards for a free coffee for purchasers having spent a designated amount at the stalls; possibly have a coupon allowing a free bacon buttie and coffee delivered to houses in the village, and advertise USS in the campsites locally. The committee will consider and discuss all this in more detail at their next meeting. Tom Holway said he would look into posting on the PL21 & South Hams pages on Facebook.
- **Competition:** Our dates often co-incide with Modbury Barrow Market, South Brent Rec market, the Watermark craft market, and possibly a new one being set up in Yealmpton. This is inevitable. We can't change USS dates once they are fixed for the year and the posters are displayed.
- **10th Anniversary:** This is in July next year and we should mark it in some way. Possibly at Ugborough Fair with a special banner; and a big cake and coffee on the appropriate USS Saturday morning as we did for the 5th anniversary.
- Anne Cormack asked for it to be noted that USS has a lovely atmosphere and is very welcoming to new stallholders and visitors.
- Sarah Scanlon said she would like to thank the regulars who support and come along, and keep USS going.

Everyone was thanked for attending, and the meeting closed at approximately 12:45