

Fanshaws Room Committee AGM
Thursday 30th April at 7.00pm in Fanshaw's Room

Circulation: Linda Ashley (Chair), Brenda Lambie (Hall) Robert Williams (Treasurer) Alison Blakey (Secretary) Lawrence Price (Environment) Jean Retallick, Tony Roberts, Rachel Drury, Pam Yates, Sally Haselden, Rose Dye, Becky Slater, Laura Brooks-Paine and all Parish Councillors

Meeting commenced at 19.05

Present: Linda Ashley(chair). Robert Williams(treasurer), Brenda Lambie (Hall), Alison Blakey(Secretary), Cllr.Tony Roberts, Jean Retallick

Apologies: Lawrence Price

Minutes of previous AGM and matter arising

Minutes approved.

No matters arising

Chairs Report

The last AGM was held in 2024

D-Day Memorial was held on 10th May beginning with a short outdoor service at the church then a walk to the Farmers Boy to commemorate the day. Villagers supplied sandwiches and scones and as it was a hot sunny day tables and flags were set out in the pub garden. This was followed by the lighting of the beacon on the Green.

8th June. Summer BBQ on the Green, donated by ATBones, with music. Once again the weather was good and it was well attended.

Brickendon Fete was held on 1st September. All went well with some profit. Thanks were given to Tony, Pam, Sally, Lawrence and all those who helped.

Children's Christmas Party was held at the Hertordshire Zoo. They all had a lovely time. Thankyou to Amanda and Becky for sorting the presents and John Lambie for being Father Christmas.

OAPs Christmas lunch was held at the Farmers Boy. Those who couldn't attend were given a hamper, thanks to Hannah from Blackfields.

There was a Christmas tree on the Green. Sourced and put up by Hannah and her father David.

2025 (there was no AGM)

Brickendon fete was held on 7th September. The weather was good and there was a reasonable profit.

14th December. There was a Nativity Play at the church, organised by the Farmers Boy, all parts played by villagers. It was well attended and much enjoyed. Afterwards there was a candlelight walk to the Farmers Boy for refreshments. Carols were sung at the lighting of the Christmas tree. The tree was again supplied by Hannah but moved closer to the village sign on the Green.

Children's Christmas Party was held at the Hertfordshire Zoo and again was a success. Amanda and Becky organized the presents again.

OAPs lunch was at the Farmers Boy and hampers were given to those who couldn't

attend.

Treasurers report

For the year ending 28th February 2026 there was a deficit of £977.

After the large events of previous years (Jubilee, Coronation etc.), we only had one event, VE Day which was at the Farmers Boy.

The income from the hall is good but has been reduced because there was only one election. Unfortunately, the expenses have now exceeded income mainly due to electricity and insurance price increases. There will not be an election this year.

Tennis Court income exceeded costs, while this is to be welcomed it may be due to delayed payment from the previous year.

There were repairs to the Hall's roof and gutter but this cost was shared with the Hall's neighbour.

The fete had a surplus of £3300.

A donation of £650 each was made to CHIPS and The James Foundation.

We end the year with net assets of £16,551.

Robert stated that if there was another big expense for the hall there would not be enough money in the coffers to pay.

Tony added that Laura may be able to get a better price for insurance.

Hall report

Bookings and expenses have remained about the same as previous year. Robert deals with the regular costs e.g. insurance, electricity and community charge.

Brenda purchases day to day items, cleaning products, booking diary, toilet tissue.

The cleaner has increased her hourly rate from £10 to £15. The hall is cleaned fortnightly at a cost of £45 per month.

There have been no extraordinary expenses this year however the broken wall heater will need replacing and they are quite costly. The outside window frames will need repainting but Brenda thinks any redecorating can wait another year.

Booking cost has remained the same, £10 per hour for residents, £15 for non-residents. There is still a regular booking from North Road Cycle Club on Tuesday evenings during the summer plus some weekend bookings for particular events such as time trials. Other cycle clubs also use the Hall a few times a year. The other regular booking is the Pilates group on Tuesday morning which does include some local participation. There is a music group that now uses the Hall several times a year but apart from these hirers are mostly one-off events such as children's parties and meetings such as Clementsbury Residents Association. There have been no elections in the area so far this year, which is a shame as they provide a useful day's income, the Hall being open from 6am until well after polling closes at 10pm.

Fanshaws Hall is on the East Herts Village Halls list but our Hall is too small for most commercial events.

Payment is usually made by BACS or cash, rarely by cheque. Brenda now needs to check with Robert that payment has been made and occasionally chase people for payment. Cash is useful as Brenda can buy cleaning products and small items.

Brenda needs to travel to WGC or Hoddesdon to deposit excess cash.

Brenda thinks the present system works and provides an income which keeps the Hall in good order while remaining a useful village asset. If the Parish Council felt the need to run a more commercial exercise a great deal of thought would need to be

given to an online booking, entry and payment system which would need to be monitored. However, while things remain the same Brenda is prepared to continue to manage the Hall for another year.

Election of officers

Linda Ashley – chair - proposed by RW, seconded by TR

Robert Williams - Treasurer - proposed by TR, seconded by BL

Brenda Lambie – Hall - proposed by LA, seconded RW

Secretary - no one proposed.

Environment – Lawrence Price - proposed TR, seconded RW

AOB – none

Fanshaws Room committee meeting followed immediately after the AGM

Fanshaw's Room Committee Meeting
Thursday 30th April 2026
(held immediately after the AGM)

Present: Linda Ashley, Brenda Lambie, Robert Williams, Jean Retallick, Alison Blakey, Tony Roberts

Apologies for absence: Lawrence Price

Minutes of previous meeting

Minutes approved.

Matters arising

None

Summer Events

It is now very important that Fanshaw's Room makes a profit on village events. Pre Covid 2020 Fanshaw's Room village socials made a little money on the BBQ, bar and raffle plus it charged a small amount to attend. Since 2020 Fanshaw's Room used the Government Covid Grants to hold various FREE Village Social Events. This money has now been spent. Many village events are now held in conjunction with The Farmers Boy but Fanshaws does not make any money from these events. It was suggested that FR could hold a fundraising event with the FB, perhaps a Bingo night with raffle. The committee agreed and Tony will discuss with Rachel and report back at the next meeting.

Village Fete – Tony

The committee has chosen a new music group to perform at the fete, as the previous groups are unavailable this year.

Getting donations for the Tombola has been difficult in the past. This year a basket will be kept at the pub to receive donations, wine, chocolates, bottles, anything suitable.

The group that has run the dog show are unable to help this year but Tony has found a substitute.

Linda has contacted the Police but not the Fire Dept yet.

The Cadets have been booked.

AOB

Brenda is working on the Newsletter which will advertise the fete and ask for donations.

Next meeting will be held on Thursday 18th June 2026 in the Farmers Boy.

Meeting closed at 7.58pm