

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday 14th July 2026 19.30 Langtoft Village Hall



Present - 17

Apologies - Genevieve Stocker, Brian Aird, Val Gregg, Richard Gregg, Pete Lane, Sandee Lane, Paul Hanson, Nicola Parker, Lorraine Spencer

Minutes of previous AGM 15th July 2025 declared a true record

Matters arising

Constitution Update

The Committee have been working on an updated version of Langtoft Players' Constitution, which was last reviewed in 2023. A draft copy had been circulated to members prior to the AGM to allow sufficient time for consideration.

Matthew Lee raised a query regarding the formatting towards the end of the document. It was clarified that the formatting differences were due to the document having been edited using different versions of Microsoft Word.

The meeting also discussed the membership status of chaperones and the reason they are not required to pay a membership fee. Joan Thompson explained that chaperones fall under Langtoft Players' insurance arrangements and are therefore covered despite their membership fee being waived. It was noted that all chaperones are still required to complete a membership form.

Following discussion, those present unanimously voted to adopt the revised Constitution.

Treasurer's report - Finance Report for 2025-26

The accounts have been independently checked, fully audited and signed off by Mick Fisher (who was previously the treasurer of the Langtoft Village Hall Committee).

The accounts overall show a profit of £583.03 (as against a loss of £1191.38) on the previous year.

This financial year was supposed to start with a performance of the play 'Over My Dead Body' in September 2025 produced by Marc. This had previously been cancelled at a last minute in June 2025. The play had already incurred costs of £1070.92, for rehearsals, stage, props, advertising, royalties, scripts etc in the previous year and accounted in part for the loss on the previous year's accounts. The play was then cancelled again at the very last minute, having already incurred more costs including more hall hire for rehearsals and printing of the programmes. We were able to recover part of the costs of the royalties minus a £30 admin fee, as the performance did not take place, which resulted in an overall loss in this years accounts of £102.25.

Next came the panto, Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs staged in January 2026 and produced by Joan and this made a profit of £1489.79. Every ticket for every performance was sold out, with a waiting list for any returns. Many thanks to Michelle for her brilliant publicity on social media. I'd like to say a massive thanks to everyone for your support and hard work to produce such a brilliant show, especially as we had very little money. Also a massive well done to the children in the panto, who all did a fantastic job, many having main parts and they were so professional it was easy to forget how young they were. Costs were kept to a minimum for costumes and set etc as we had very little money left after paying for the hall hire until the ticket money came in after the show, following the loss on last years accounts. In fact we had to ask the village hall if they could wait for us to pay January hall hire until we got the ticket money in February as we did not have enough money to pay this at the time. There was also a good profit of £444.33 on refreshments and £332.00 on the raffle at the panto. I really enjoyed being your producer and working with everyone.

We did a couple of fundraising events jointly with the Village Hall committee. In November 2025 we held a quiz night and Players received £117.50 as their share of the profit. In April 2026 we held a very successful Murder Mystery Evening, which was a sold out event. The 'murder mystery show' was provided by Players, with several new members performing. The food provided by Simply Delicious was amazing. We received great feedback from the audience. Players received £501.68 as their share of the profit.

The final show of the year was Duke's Diner, written and produced by Abbie. This was a brilliant original musical production, but unfortunately it was not well supported in terms of tickets sold and so overall made a loss of £257.04. Unfortunately the tickets sold did not even cover the cost of the hall hire for the rehearsals, before other production costs were factored in. However the raffle made a profit of £130 and refreshments a profit of £205.61 which reduced the overall loss.

As always the greatest expense for every show is the hall hire at approx £800-£900 depending on the show and the number of rehearsals. The Village Hall increased the hourly rate this year from £7.50 per hour to £9.00 per hour. The daily rate increased from £48 to £60 (for when we have the hall all day for tech and dress rehearsals and set painting days). Therefore more than ever we have to sell a lot of tickets just to cover the cost of the hall hire before factoring in other production costs for example royalties, scripts, printing, costumes, make up, advertising, music, lights and sound. So my usual plea is for any ideas on how we can either reduce costs or increase ticket sales are always welcome.

Unfortunately we were not able to find a sponsor to pay for the printing of the programmes for the Play, the Panto or Duke's Diner so we had to pay for the printing and we don't sell enough to cover these printing costs. Hopefully next year we will get a sponsor.

We had 26 adult members (up from 18 in the previous year as more people took part in shows, particularly the panto) and 13 junior members (up from 11 the previous year). The junior members include those joining to take part in the panto and those in Langtoft Stars of the Future. The increased income generated from subs this year did just cover the costs for insurance and NODA membership fees but if the membership numbers drop again this will not be the case as the costs for insurance and NODA membership fees increase every year and they are the minimum we can pay as the standard insurance policy is for a minimum of 50 members.

Stars of the Future was very successful making a profit of £279.48, the difference between weekly £2 per child fee paid and the hall hire. Well done Michelle and thank you for working so hard with the children.

I have done an analysis of our income and costs to show the additional costs we have, as well as the costs to put on the shows. So the productions need to make a good profit to cover these extra costs we have. Our greatest expenditure this year outside of production costs was £575.00 for repairs to the stage extension which was vital as it was not safe. Hopefully the reinforcements to the stage extension will last many years. The second largest cost was £290 for the repairs to the steps that go from the stage to the kitchen for improved safety tread. This was paid jointly with the Village Hall.

We currently have a balance of £3472.67 including the NatWest current account, the NS&I deposit account, and cash. The TESCO prepaid card was withdrawn by TESCO this year and the account was closed. I look forward to lots more successful profitable shows this coming year.

All records are available if anyone wants to look at them.

Joan

Chair's report

Good evening everyone and thank you all for coming to our Annual General Meeting.

As we reflect on the past year, there have certainly been plenty of highlights, along with a few disappointments. Unfortunately, *Over My Dead Body* did not come to fruition as we had hoped. Whilst that was disappointing for everyone involved, theatre is never without its challenges, and we have continued to move forward with enthusiasm, creativity and determination.

I would like to begin by congratulating Joan and the entire cast and crew of *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs* on a fabulous pantomime. We should all be incredibly proud that the majority of our performances sold out. The countless hours of rehearsals, set building, costumes and backstage work truly paid off, and it was wonderful to see audiences enjoying every moment.

In April, under Marc's leadership, we ventured into something completely new with our first improvised murder mystery evening, *Murder at the Manor*, in partnership with

Langtoft Village Hall Committee. It was a fantastic evening, filled with mystery, laughter and some truly impressive detective work. The delicious food provided by Simply Delicious, alongside the desserts made by our volunteers, helped make the event a great success. It was very much a team effort, and I particularly enjoyed seeing the effort our audience members put into their costumes. We are already looking forward to the next one.

To round off our theatrical year, we staged *Duke's Diner*, written by Abbie Livermore. Although we had a slow start in finding our cast, once rehearsals began, we hit the ground running. It proved to be a fun, fresh and lively production, packed with popular songs, and it was wonderful to hear audience members singing along.

However, after the success we have enjoyed with ticket sales in recent performances, attendance for *Duke's Diner* was disappointing. It does appear that finding both cast members and audiences becomes more challenging as we move into the summer months, and this is certainly something we should consider as we plan for the year ahead.

Our youth group, *Stars of the Future*, continues to thrive. This year, sessions have focused on ad-libbing, improvisation, musicals, characterisation and story development. The children's imagination never fails to entertain us, and it has been wonderful to watch their confidence and creativity grow. I would also like to remind everyone that if you would like to become involved in the sessions, you would be most welcome. Between us, we have a wealth of knowledge and experience to share.

Outside of our productions, we once again supported Langtoft Parish Council at their Christmas Lights Switch-On, which was a fantastic community event. We also held our second quiz night alongside Langtoft Village Hall Committee. We are keen to continue supporting and attending these events, as well as exploring new opportunities to engage with our community in the future.

It was also an honour for Langtoft Players to receive two nominations for performance in a pantomime at the NODA awards. Congratulations to Verity-Belle for her nomination as Fairy Dewdrop and, on a personal note, I was delighted to be nominated for Hogbog. We both had a wonderful day in Retford, and it was incredibly special to come away with an award. I would thoroughly recommend attending the awards ceremony to anyone who has the opportunity. It is a fantastic chance to meet members of other groups in our region and to celebrate the successes of amateur theatre together.

We have welcomed some wonderful new members this year, and it has been lovely getting to know you all. New faces bring fresh ideas, energy and enthusiasm, and we are delighted to have you as part of Langtoft Players.

Finally, I would like to thank the committee for all of their support and hard work throughout the year. Behind every production and event is an enormous amount of organisation, and I am incredibly grateful for everything you do.

To all of our members, thank you for your continued support, commitment and dedication to Langtoft Players. I look forward to creating many more memorable experiences with you all in the coming year.

Best Wishes

Michelle Marshall

Election of officers

The Committee stood down, and Sue Archer took over the meeting until the election of the Chair had been completed.

3 year positions:

Chair: Michelle Marshall proposed by Matthew Lee. Seconded by Marc Skinner. No other proposals. Unanimously agreed by everyone present. MM accepted.

Treasurer: Joan Thompson proposed by Marc Skinner. Seconded by Vylma Denniston. Unanimously agreed by everyone present. JT accepted.

Secretary: Genevieve Stocker has decided to step down. Michelle Marshall to send a thank you to Genevieve for her 10 years as Secretary. **Action MM**

Jackie Dodds proposed by Vylma Denniston. Seconded by Marc Skinner. Unanimously agreed by everyone present. JD accepted.

1 year positions:

Publicity: Michelle Marshall proposed by Amanda Vickers. Seconded by Gina Espinosa. Unanimously agreed by everyone present. MM accepted.

Safeguarding Lead: Marc Skinner proposed by Chris Wallis. Seconded by Martin Baines. Unanimously agreed by everyone present. MS accepted.

Village Hall Representative: As Marc is now Chair of Langtoft Village Hall Committee, Sue advised that the Village Hall Committee was happy for him to continue in both roles. Jackie Dodds raised concerns regarding a potential conflict of interest. Following discussion, those present agreed that it would be preferable for separate representatives to be appointed for each organisation. Vylma Denniston was proposed by Jackie Dodds. Seconded by Amanda Vickers. Unanimously agreed by everyone present. VD accepted

Costume & Props Co-Ordinator: Marc Skinner proposed by Martin Baines. Seconded by Emma Rafalek. Unanimously agreed by everyone present. MS accepted.

Front of House Co-Ordinator: Amanda Vickers nominated by Marc Skinner. Seconded by Louise Lee. Unanimously agreed by everyone present. AV accepted. Dawn King expressed she is happy to assist if required.

Election of committee

As Jackie Dodds and Vylma Denniston had accepted additional officer roles, it was noted that there were up to two vacancies available on the Committee.

Amanda Vickers volunteered to stand for election and was proposed by Marc Skinner. Seconded by Gina Espinosa. Unanimously agreed by everyone present. AV accepted.

Gina Espinosa also volunteered to stand and was proposed by Martin Baines. Seconded by Vylma Denniston. Unanimously agreed by everyone present. GE accepted.

Martin Baines and Dawn King confirmed that they were willing to continue as Committee members. Dawn King was proposed by Marc Skinner. Seconded by Amanda Vickers. Martin Baines was proposed by Amanda Vickers and seconded by Gina Espinosa. Both were unanimously agreed by everyone present.

Michelle Marshall advised the meeting that, as several Committee members hold multiple roles, the 2025–26 Committee had sought clarification from NODA and confirmed that this arrangement is permitted.

Correspondence – none

Donations

Hyde & Mossop have disbanded.

Those present agreed that the Committee can decide to donate up to £100 if anyone local approaches with a request.

Future Productions

Michelle suggested we focus on producing one main show for the year and then have more fundraising shows, another Murder Mystery or a musical revue of our past songs.

After some discussion about past shows, the possibility of panto over 2 weekends, hall hire costs, publicity and performance restrictions regarding children it was agreed that we will focus on Pantomime to begin with and the Committee will then look at our options for other performances during meetings. Marc stated that he would be happy to produce the Murder Mystery.

Pantomime – Joan and Marc volunteered to produce. Joan stated she was interested in Jack & the Beanstalk, Aladdin or Sleeping Beauty. Marc advised he was interested in Cinderella. A secret ballot was taken, and Joan was declared this year's Producer. Joan asked those present what show they would prefer Jack and the Beanstalk was selected. The committee have previously agreed that the Producer would chose when to stage the panto, either December or in January. Joan advised she would

prefer to stage the panto end of January. Dates to be discussed with LVH and Martin.

Action MM/JD

Any other business

Subscription Price: Amanda proposed £15 for Adults and £7.50 for Young Person (under the age of 16), Gina seconded. Unanimously agreed by everyone present.

Ticket Prices: We are much cheaper than other local groups. Jackie proposed £10 adults, £7 child. Matthew seconded. Unanimously agreed by everyone present.

Programme Price: £1 price agreed. Since the Waggon & Horses closed we haven't found another sponsor. Dawn offered to sponsor the programmes for this year. Michelle thanked Dawn for her kind offer.

Bar Prices: Comments from patrons recently saying our bar prices are very low. These were increased but can clearly be increased further.

Action Committee

Matthew asked if cast could have access to a raffle ticket book (one particular colour so could be easily identified) so that cast and crew could have the opportunity to take part in the raffles.

Action AV

Matthew expressed how talented the children are and mentioned James in particular for the journey he has been on since joining Langtoft Players

Date and time of next AGM – Tuesday 13th July 2027, 7:30pm, Langtoft Village Hall.

Meeting closed 20:44pm

Minutes compiled by Michelle Marshall