

MVA AGM – May 2025

Present:

Directors: Jenny Clucas, John Holton, Chris Waine

Attendees: Richard Barnwell, Pat Downing, George King, Pat Rowley, Nicola Wisdom,
Simon Wisdom, Huw Yardley

Apologies: Paul Howells

1. Chairmans Report (Jenny Clucas)

Welcome to the Directors, registered members of the MVA, and Mawsley village members and guests present. Thank you very much for attending tonight.

I will give a brief overview of the past year and John will present the finances before we open the AGM for Q&A.

Looking back over the past 12 months – the MVA has organised and run the fireworks night, produced and circulated the village newsletter, and reinstated twice yearly litter picks around the village.

I begin with praising MVA members Chris Waine and Martin Bentley and all the Fireworks Team and volunteers for yet another magnificent and successful fireworks event. The time and effort they put in is invaluable, and the event is an important part of the Mawsley calendar. I wish to convey special thanks to Martin as 2024 was his last Fireworks Night after many years. I would also like to thank the MPC for their continued support.

The litter pick in April was successful with lots of volunteers, who collected 20 bags of litter from around the village. Many thanks to all the volunteers. TCAM kindly provided tea and biscuits for all those involved.

There were four village Newsletter published in the past year. The Newsletter is proving to be a hit with the local residents with a mix of updates from village groups/associations, information on the successes of our numerous football teams and interesting articles, plus a limited number of adverts for local businesses, which assist with funding the printing costs.

The MVA continues to work closely with Mawsley Parish Council as the lease holder for the Village Centre and with its trading arm, TCAM, a Community Interest Company, who operate the Centre on a day-to-day basis.

Looking forward:

Chris and the Team have started planning for Fireworks Night 2025 – something to look forward to in the dark winter nights.

The next Newsletter will be circulated in September, with the deadline for copy in mid-August. The Editor will contact the regular contributors and User Groups and we will post a reminder on the Facebooks Groups. If anyone wishes to contribute an article or run a paid advert please talk to John. After that there will be a pre- Christmas Newsletter in early Dec and the following one in April 2026.

The next Litter pick will be in mid-September – date to be promoted on Facebook.

I have been approached regarding the installation of further benches in Mawsley, particularly for those with disabilities or recovering from ill health etc. Potential areas to target are the eco

meadow and areas along the footpath by The Spinney and Old Gorse Way. The MVA and MPC think this is a good idea, but progress will depend on obtaining permission from the landowners.

2. Directors and Registered Members (Jenny Clucas)

I would like to thank the Directors and active registered members for their continuing contribution to the MVA and the Village.

There are no officers up for election this year and the current board of directors are: Jenny Clucas, Chris Waine, John Holton, Paul Howells. Paul Howells sent his apologies for the AGM.

Active members have declined of late and there are now only a few village residents registered as members of the MVA.

Retirements: Martin Bentley, Director and Alan Moore

Martin stood down as an MVA Director and on behalf of us all I would like to thank him for all his contributions to the MVA in addition to his major role in Fireworks Night.

Alan left the Village in December and his contribution to MVA and many other village groups and activities is sadly missed. We know he and Sue are settling into life in Lincolnshire. Alan has promised John he will still provide occasional Newsletter articles. Huge thanks to Alan for his work as an active MVA registered member.

If anyone would like to become more involved with the MVA as a Director or registered member you would be most welcome.

3. Finance – Accounts 2023/24 (John Holton)

The MVA financial year runs from December to end November.

At the end of the last financial year in November 2024, the accounts showed MVA funds carried forward of £12,321, down on the previous year (£15,166).

The main transactions during the year were:

- Payment of the rates £1,767
- Preparation of the end of year accounts £613
- Newsletter costs £1,660. Four editions of the newsletter were circulated in the year and the printing costs were off-set by advertisement income of £1,440, giving a cost of £220.
- Toddlers Group £303
- Firework night £6,284. The firework display ticket sales and grant were £6,385, giving a profit of £101.

Since the end of the financial year (November 30, 2024) there has been an increase in the rates to £2095.80. There have been 2 editions of the Newsletter, which cost £1,015 offset by advertisement income of £960.

As of today, the charity has £12,353 in the bank.

The MVA is also holding the money collected on behalf of the Skate Park project, currently £2,394.

The MVA remains in a strong financial position for the size and extent of its activities, however it will need to consider fund raising activities in the coming years to cover the rates and to cash flow the cost of the fireworks.

4. Q&A

The meeting was opened for comments/questions.

Fireworks Night

Richard commented that people from outside the Village, park on the C31 or approach from Cransley to watch the Fireworks for free. He enquired if they could be approached for a contribution towards the MVA's costs, as the event is run for the Village and by a charity. Chris responded that they have tried something like this previously with limited success, however, they will have more volunteers going forward so will look at this again.

Volunteering

John raised the point that less people are volunteering for the MVA and TCAM now. Kevin made the point that working people prefer to volunteer on an ad hoc basis rather than for something regular. Simon added that if we looked across all of the user groups and activities in Mawsley there are plenty of volunteers, just spread across more groups as there is now more going on in the village than in the earlier years.