

LEONARD STANLEY VILLAGE HALL

MINUTES of Village Hall Management committee meeting held on Tuesday 26th March 2024 from 7.30pm.

APOLOGIES Mgr Penny Scott, LSPC Rep Chris Connett, Chris Phillips. T= Trustee SC = Social Club

PRESENT Richard Hubble T/Chairman, Bobbie Ireland T/Treasurer, T David Pearson, T JAN Bogdiukiewicz, T Phil Herbert, T John Webb, Ali Hubble Supporter/SC Liaison, Caretaker Kev Turfrey, SC Secretary Nadine Phillips, Roy Wilkes Dozulé Twinning, Julie Cull 5 Valleys Dog Training, Secretary Jane Roberts.

MINUTES of the January Meeting were e-circulated previously twice & agreed by all here as a true record.

MATTERS ARISING

PRICING REVIEW now completed, increases agreed, hirers informed, displayed on website.

DEFIBRILLATOR TRAINING/BASIC FIRST AID SESSION still not scheduled - **Carried forward.**

SOCIAL CLUB ANNUAL OCCUPATIONAL LICENCE has been reviewed, discussed fully with SC and agreement reached, in particular substantially increased monthly rents from April 2024 and a defined share of their operating profits every 3 months. These changes are needed to help sustain the Village Hall as a major benefit to the Community and the Licence has now been signed off by both parties dated 22nd March 2024.

Chairman thanked fellow Trustee David for his invaluable assistance during the negotiations. He also thanked the SC Managers for their responses, understanding and cooperation during the process. He is really pleased now that it is behind us so that we can both move forward positively and cooperatively together.

GIFT AID/NEW ROOF FUND to be discussed later.

AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS 2022/2023: A qualified person (SG) has been reviewing them using our Xero system which is new to him. There are several more items to work through with the Treasurer for a full/transparent understanding, but he is happy to make his declaration and sign them off in due course. A fee was agreed and it is anticipated that he will also be prepared to audit the 2023/2024 accounts sometime after the 31st March.

CAR PARK TARMAC REPAIRS Wet weather has delayed T David from doing this. **Carried forward.**

CAR PARK LINE MARKING Wet weather has also delayed this as several 4 days are required by the Contractor who has been lined up. Carried forward.

MANAGER'S REPORT (copy appended to the Minute Book)

Revamping cleaning cupboard started, rubbish removed & rebuild underway by Kevin when time permits. PS plans to keep 1 section locked with one section open no door. The floor should be kept completely clear so hooks will be used to store equipment where needed. Unfortunately, the African drumming teacher found that there is too much echo in the hall. The National Childbirth Trust is interested in starting to book some of their courses later this year.

SAFETY GATE AT FRONT DOOR is being left to the Playgroup to sort out.

EMERGENCY CONTACT LIST in front window and on website.

FIRST AID BOX Revamp ongoing.

BENCH OUT FRONT Wet weather has delayed this.

Carried forward.

CIGARETTE STUBBER Emptied and works well enough, no need to replace it.

PARKING ISSUES

BI asked whether Leonard Stanley Football Club could be permitted to use the VH car park on Saturday mornings when there are no other hirers. This could help alleviate the on-road (Marsh Rd/Bath Rd etc) parking problems on match days when their own small car park by the pavilion is rammed. Everyone present agreed this would be a welcome, community-spirited idea, but JC still has ongoing problems on weekday evenings when footballers are playing, when vehicles associated with the football club are using the car park without permission, meaning that hirers & users of the village hall don't have room to park, & also when other sports events are happening in the SC. After an extended discussion regarding how this suggestion could potentially be made to work whilst still accommodating hirers of the village hall, it was agreed that the suggestion should be shelved pending a discussion with the football club and the parish council.

It was also noted that the VH has recently been criticised on FB & Twitter/X by members & supporters of the football club for not letting them park at the hall, but this is not a problem for the VH to solve. VH already puts up with people who think they have the right to park in the VH car park & who are abusive if challenged. If they can be identified the VH would certainly take action. One improvement will be when the white lines are painted on to mark out allocated spaces for VH & SC users. Perhaps temporary sprayed lines??? It was agreed that the only body that could sort out the wider problem is the parish council – probably by putting additional parking on their field for those who are using the pavilion & field, be they locals or visiting teams.

The idea of paid permits to allow people to park in the VH car park was raised & dismissed. It had been tried before, & anyway was in conflict with the need to provide sufficient car parking for hirers of the hall.

A liaison sub-committee (comprising PC/VH/FC) has been proposed, & the reps need to meet to at least discuss the interim option of the FC using the CP on Sat mornings when there are no bookings – &/or lobby the PC to work towards a permanent solution. It is understood that the PC is in the process of agreeing a new lease with the Adults FC.

RH to contact the PC & FC.

TREASURER'S REPORT (copy appended to the Minute Book)

The usual expected bills including the latest quarterly electric bill: £1,527.06 and the annual music licence £279. Monthly Bank Interest is being received & a recent £58 donation from Jane for plant sales & knitted cats. Some recoding of income on the xero system was done which affects definitions of "donations". The Profit & Loss for 1st April 23 to date compared to the 2 previous years was e-circulated to Trustees and available at this meeting. Bank Balance 26.3.24 £23,894.25. The New roof Fund Balance is £16,055.14 with £300 from Bingo Night on the 23rd March to be added.

SECRETARY'S REPORT (copy appended to the Minute Book)

A DIGITAL COPY OF THE GENERAL & COVID SPECIFIC RISK ASSESSMENT has been prepared from the original paper copy, incorporating amendments made by Manager & David. Circulated to Trustees thereafter. To be recirculated to Trustees for a final look before agreement. Agreed that it should be reviewed annually at the January Meeting, to coincide with the SC Occupational Licence annual review.

Secretary asked if a simple washable/dryable absorbent safety mat could be obtained to use when washing up as the sink unit is not level. A mop is of little use as the floor remains wet. It could be hung to dry under the void by the cooker. Similarly, she asked for a dustpan & brush to be placed inside the cupboard under the sink for ease of use in the kitchen etc as sometimes the other one could not be found.

Secretary to deal with this.

SOCIAL CLUB MATTERS

Nadine reported that the Easter Egg Competition had been amazingly successful, fostering lots of goodwill. Huge thanks to Ali & Alex for organising this. The Occupational Licence negotiations have concluded and on the back of this they are reviewing the prices they charge their Members and balloting them on a separate price structure for guests & visiting sports teams' purchases. Their new till can do this and the more money they make the more there will be to pass on to the VH.

SC considered issuing tickets to the 150 or so Members which would authorise them to park at the hall but abandoned it as too complex. SC acknowledges that when it's busy with visiting teams (darts, skittles, pool) there can be conflict with VH users which they try to avoid by encouraging car sharing/educating visitors. They hope it improves when lines are marked so people can park better.

They now have their own alcohol licence so a private VH hirer (if they are an approved SC Member) can buy alcohol there & take it into the VH. However, the VH has its own alcohol licence and it is not possible to use both licences at the same time, ie be selling/supplying alcohol at the hall AND allowing hirers to get it from the SC. There is a legal difference between the words sell and supply, but if an event is being held in the VH the hirer must choose which licence to use. BI remarked that when applying for a licence one must be careful to distinguish each event in the hall, either on a public licence or SCs Membership licence – or hirers can bring their own alcohol. At the Bingo Night when VH was selling alcohol, participants could not go into the SC to buy & bring in a beer. This can be worked out in due course as there will be upcoming joint events. It is actually an extra chore for VH Volunteers who currently buy in alcohol for resale at FR events and the VH is unable to offer as wide a choice, eg beers, so it could work out just as well if SC does it for some VH events. The new monthly rents and the quarterly discretionary donations would eventually come into VH income anyway.

[The recent Race Night held by Church FR Team pre-sold tickets/people brought their own drinks into the VH]

Nadine mentioned the Promises Auction as a joint SC/VH venture on 13th JULY. They need people to come up with promises/services/good to auction. (Dog walking? Ironing? Lawn mowing?)

What can you promise/give?

SC Members have asked Nadine about the VH cleaning regime as no-one seems to see her. Theirs comes in early mornings. There have been remarks about sticky fingers & paint left on walls. They hope that the VH could do afternoons or other times.

Secretary to refer to Manager for a response. **

GENTS LOOS: There is a persistent leak that needs investigating, a pressure issue? Water in sink bubbles. Kevin was asked to take a first look ASAP at the waste off the sink; if it's not that then its further down, in case the plumber needs to be called in. DP advised to speak with Gary (SC) who knows all about the runs.

Yellow Floor Slip Signs have reappeared behind the cleaning cupboard door.

HEATING IN SC: Members complain that it can be either too hot or too cold, despite the Stats readings. SC and VH have their own independent Rad Stats, but there is only one boiler. It is set at 17° at the top of the wall. **This would be checked.**

The Toilet heating is only on when the VH is heated. Wall toilet heaters do not (seem to) work at all...

FUNDRAISING

Chairman thanked helpers at the recent Bingo Night & JC for bringing all her friends in. RH not too keen to do another but they are popular and everyone enjoyed the night. If there is a next time it/other events must go into the Parish Magazine & on FB, with more and earlier posters, more widely distributed. It raised about £300, not too bad considering some illness cancellations and it being the night after the church event.

NEXT EVENTS

Quiz Night JUNE 22ND

Promises Auction July 13th

Chairman asked all present (and anyone else who can promise almost anything or donate something to auction) to support this event, which should be a fun evening to attend.

Joint Band Night/Family Afternoon in Autumn/September is on the cards.

Christmas Fayre Date TBA

July 27th Five Valleys Dog Show. Church is doing refreshments in the VH but we could allow sellers to rent some stalls from us in there as well as on the field. JC advised that she is doing a Dog Show in KS in May at their big Fair and she would let stall holders know about her LS event. Several stall holders will probably be interested in attending both and KC has already asked us.

Perhaps one day there can be one big event, maybe even a joint Stanleys one. ????

BI would discuss with Jan soon how to share the VH space to satisfy both parties.

Action BI/Jan

Dozulé Exchange Roy Wilkes advised that 10 French people from this long-running event will be in LS from 25th- 29th July. As their visit coincides with the above it would be nice if there is time to make some kind of presentation to them, especially as this may well be the last time the event takes place, due to age etc.

THE ROOF REPLACEMENT

Chairman & Treasurer had discussed the fund-raising situation and agreed that, with over £16k raised and with a good amount now held in general funds (maintaining a stable £23k), if £5k were transferred into the FR A/C it would mean that we would qualify to apply for & receive an additional £20k as matched funding to accelerate the project. He felt that we should start the process now by applying for the grant and simultaneously getting the two quotes updated (plus one more quote), with the intention of getting the work done in 2025. With our hire charges increasing and the new SC agreement in place, we are well placed to make that decision. However, we will not stop fund-raising. The work is likely to be iro £35-40k.

JC asked about hall opening during the works. It would certainly be disruptive for all concerned, particularly when the roof is being uncovered and a temporary cover put on. There would be scaffolding too but builders won't be there at night. Whether the hall can be used during the works is not yet knowable.

The project would include insulation, high speed wifi, plus some window insulation etc – a comprehensive project. RH would make sure that any contractor selected would be choosing sub-contractors carefully. The work needs to be done properly with the right calibre builder. PH confirmed that the building is not listed and asked whether the slates would be re-used. It is unlikely that there will be sufficient slates to re-use but that they would be as close a match as possible and in keeping with the building. There would probably be a market for the reusable old slates. **Trustees agreed that this project should go ahead now.**

The back page of the annual SDC News sheet invites people to sign up to a local lottery and it was agreed that LSVH would do so. At £1/week it seemed like an excellent idea. **Treasurer would sign us up.**

The sponsorship idea has not yet been actioned. RH would in due course draw up a general statement which anyone could give to potential sponsors so that they could choose how they might wish to help sponsor LSVH. That could be useful for the Promises Auction. We also need flyers for the Promises Auction that can be delivered around the area. They need to go on Social Media and the Parish Magazine in time too. **Action: all**

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Kevin cannot test the kitchen emergency light as the mains needs to be switched off. An electrician is needed. **Action Manager**

Julie asked whether there is a security camera at the end of the hall outside: No. It could be an option and would be useful, if only to prove instances of car bumps.

DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS

Tuesday 16th April 7.30pm in LSVH to discuss forthcoming Quiz/Auction of Promises/Dog Show.

Tuesday 14th May 7.30pm next LSVH Committee Meeting.