

# LEONARD STANLEY VILLAGE HALL

MINUTES of Village Hall Management Committee meeting held on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2023 from 7.30pm.

Apologies: Chris Connett LSPC, Byron Fry SC, Pat Hearne FC+, Bobbie Ireland T.

Present: Chair Richard Hubble T, Penny Scott Mgr, Roy Wilkes Dz Twg, David Pearson T, John Webb T, Phil Herbert T, Jan Bogdiukiewicz T, Alex Farthing SCTr, Julie Cull 5VDT, Chris Phillips FG, Ali Harrison Supporter, Jane Roberts Secretary.

RH welcomed Alex, Social Club's new Treasurer, to the meeting with their £900 monthly rental cheque.

Running quickly through the last minutes, the warm hub idea was discussed but rejected due to insufficient response. Notices about spillages in kitchen & loos are in hand. The idea of a salt/grit bin to be c/o to keep it in review. Tripping hall lights: PS, JAN & RH now have keys into SC to access the fuse box. Saturday morning work party to smarten up outside to be c/o until better weather.

Piles of belongings left on corridor floor sorted, a miscommunication.

A Trustees' meeting took place recently, with good, considered discussions.

RH confirmed stage 1 Platinum Grant was successful. He has now set aside time for the final stage 2 application which must be in to ACRE by 9<sup>th</sup> March. It would be much more complicated and require more information, including another quotation. PS to sort that. RH will go for the max £9k. We must stop calling it repair fund as it IS a roof replacement (ACRE will not fund repairs) and the old tiles can't be re-used anyway. RH thought the Treasurer may have labelled the savings A/C as repair so this should be changed. It should be known as THE NEW ROOF FUND. We urgently need another quotation and the likely total needed will be more than £30k, more likely £38k. Roof insulation would be incorporated.

## Treasurer's Report

The report was circulated amongst trustees at the mtg and the following points noted:

RH would like to have a full year of A/Cs from Treasurer to compare it with previous years figures, although comparison could be difficult due to the previous covid restrictions. Our annual T/O is iro of £20k; £8k profit after tax so not much to play with. Mains Water Leak is dealt with below.

A full copy of the Treasurer's Report is appended to the Minute Book.

## Manager's Report

The recent boiler problem has been dealt with. Water ingress in the gents' loos is still a mystery which Nick has tried to solve, perhaps it may become clear next time it rains heavily (possibly a roof issue). Tap & sink issues in the ladies: Click/clack bungs will be removed to let water down the plugholes and one tap probably just needs slight attention. A notice asking users to switch off taps should stop them being left on, particularly the HOT tap, as happened recently, resulting in a steamy room and huge waste of money. Roy Wilkes was asked to attend to these.

The Water Urn was left ON recently. It should be switched off and emptied. Although emptying it is not straightforward (like filling it) it can be done using the available jugs. Another notice might be helpful.

There did not seem to be much pushback from the No Bouncy Castle rule although PS still double checks that party givers will comply and not ignore the ruling.

The hall is pretty fully booked but some regulars, eg 5VDT (our biggest user) would like more slots. Regulars are looked after as much as possible but the idea of freeing up an evening once a month to be looked into, firstly by Parish Council moving and Wine Circle moving, although WC speakers are booked a year ahead.

2 new hirers have paid for slots for adult drama & floristry sessions, but they may need to change their dates. PS is v happy to show people around. JC had also done this to a casual enquirer who was v impressed with our toilets – emphasising the importance of keeping them as we like to find them. PS also offers to help promote hirers' events on L the S Fb.

It was difficult for WC to hear the speaker last week as the double doors rattled badly when SC fire door slams as it has no damper/spring on it.. Alex offered to ask users to close it quietly as she had noticed this herself. Roy was asked to see if he could put something like that on it for us. Also, a draught excluder strip might stop ours rattling.

RH thanked PS for her inventiveness & efforts to obtain & satisfy hirers. He also acknowledged Nicky's excellent work & it was agreed to give her a bunch of flowers.

### **Social Club Report**

Those present were very pleased to meet Alex who is helping take SC forward now they are much busier. They are looking to provide LSVH with £3k towards our rising gas & electric costs and also a grant of £5k towards whatever expenditure the hall prefers. They are sorting out their own accounts to reflect their current position and are well aware that they are a major VH supporter. They plan to upgrade their rooms to be more comfortable & appealing with new tables & chairs, a projector and to separate out the functions, sports/social.

They have new volunteers and are also looking to have windows to match ours.

There have been random occasions when the heating goes off; probably due to recent boiler problems. They were asked to keep a note of any heating failures.

VH letter about loos found their mark as they have a cleaner in most days. Staff are asked to check them regularly & before leaving at night. They also have received complaints after a party has left, so it's not all one-sided. They've noticed a curious leak in one of the ladies', perhaps a cistern leak, or condensation from the cistern. Agreed that regular hirers present no problem but occasional hirers probably don't check they are clean before leaving. Again, emphasising that everyone likes clean toilets.

### **Fund raising update**

Quiz Night raised £498, very successful with 80 people in.

RH has no time now to organise the live band event on 22<sup>nd</sup> April so it is shelved until later unless others can do it. Social Club mentioned their singer coming on the 29<sup>th</sup> July so perhaps we could buddy up with that - at least help publicise it for them.

The talk about Stanleys Day in June is also no go for us as the visit to BoHo met with a frosty reception & they are already working with KSVH & Playgroup.

PS suggested a Sale Trail, like we did last year, in the first week in September. We need to advertise it a bit earlier too.

The Big Help Out Day on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May (part of Coronation w/e celebrations) seems to be for others to help out in the community. Jan is already working on having a TV in church to watch the coronation itself which is likely to be v well attended.

LSVH is not booked out that w/e so another Quiz Night Saturday pm, (not conflicting with church) could work well. It is not known whether Social Club is doing anything.

KSVH has offered LSVH 2 stalls on the Monday which hope to take up, although neither Secretary nor PS are able to be present to man it. Goods are collecting up to fill a stall though and we could have another raffle as prizes have also been donated. The latter needs promoting on Fb etc (and helpers!!)

Bingo was mentioned as a possible fun session sometime or other.

Gloucestershire Police Male Voice Choir is coming to sing in church as a joint event on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> September. £7.50 per ticket. They typically bring in 30-40 supporters and church capacity is 120 so 60-70 locals should fill it. There could be a wine/cheese interval, probably a raffle & sponsors. After expenses we are looking at minimum £2-300 each, even with online booking charge (local tickets available too). Local posters. It is always a very good event. Last year GPMVC raised over £7k for Ukraine.

### **Mains Water Leak**

RH had asked Treasurer NOT to pay £313 DD (up from £69) as it is incumbent on the water company to prove increased usage. The water meter had been removed either by Water Plus or Severn Trent and the matter has not yet been resolved to our satisfaction.

Water Plus took one meter out and put one of theirs in to measure the leak (1Litre/min). As they said it was not theirs they put the first meter back. Jan went out there with Bobbie. There is now a big plastic disc, a bung? – possibly a new meter was put back underneath it. Jan needs something to help lift it so will go tomorrow (Saturday) to see what's underneath. RH confirmed that Water Plus (our service provider) have suspended our a/c so we are not paying anything atm. In talks with them & Severn Trent, no-one seems to know for certain what is going on.

### **Hire Price Increases**

RH had asked Treasurer to analyse hire costs that other halls charge to compare with ours but no information to hand yet. PS advised that it can be difficult to make comparisons. We need to look after regulars/not put off new hirers. Prices have not risen since before covid so hirers should expect some increase. PLI has increased. Discussion/decision deferred til later as we only want to do this once and do it fairly. **Treasurer to be asked to do some analysis with some urgency to sort this.**

### **Round the room**

- 1 P Herbert would ask Parish Council next week whether they could change their monthly Tuesday to a Wednesday (liaise with PS).
- 2 D Pearson to see how WC monthly mtg day change might help situation next year.
- 3 Disabled loo needed cleaning of urine 2 film club Saturdays (Jan & Feb) Alex will report and deal with. More loo rolls always needed please. PH reminded all that loos are easily blocked with sewage if overloaded with paper.
- 4 Roy Wilkes noted that twinning assoc (6 of them) are going to Dozulé for the 50<sup>th</sup> this year & they will come here next July. Agreed we should have a bash for them.
- 5 5VDT reported an accident to one of her clients who had badly gashed her head on the defibrillator outside whilst picking up after her dog. Fortunately she is OK. The fire inspector also managed to bump his head during an outside inspection. The unit had then been lowered by LSPC as it was reportedly too high for some to reach. It seems to have been a complete accident and no further action is required as it is well lit at night and highly visible in daylight.

**Date of next meeting** TBA Subject to confirmation, now confirming as Tues 23<sup>rd</sup> May!