

MINUTES OF VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

held on Tuesday 23rd May from 7.30pm

Apologies: Chris Philips, Jan Bogdiukiewicz

Present: Richard Hubble Chairman T, Bobbie Ireland T & Treasurer, David Pearson T, John Webb T, Phil Herbert T, Julie Cull 5V Dog Training, Pat Hearne Friendship Group/Film Club, Alex Farthing & Byron Fry LSSC, Chris Connett LSPC, Alison Hubble Supporter, Penny Scott Manager, Kev Turfrey Caretaker, Jane Roberts Secretary.

Chairman warmly welcomed Kevin Turfrey to the team looking after the hall. He was engaged, after interview, as a general handyman to deal with minor issues and liaise with the Manager & others as necessary on more serious issues – already spotted weeding out front tonight!

MATTERS ARISING from previous minutes:

1. Saturday morning outside tidy up – referred to later this meeting.
2. Fundraising Bank A/C name has been amended to Roof Replacement Fund.
3. Treasurer's A/Cs approved. She would arrange for an independent audit.
4. Chairman confirmed a formal thank you to Social Club for their £8,000.00 donation. £5,000 would be added to the Roof Replacement Fund and £3,000 towards the hall's utility costs. This generosity was greatly appreciated.

CHAIRMANS REPORT circulated to all previously/copy in minute book. Briefly here: He attended the Parish Council AGM which he found genuinely interesting.

Resolved immediate issues with VH website & renewed it for 12 months but it is not fit for our purpose long term so must be replaced, although it could cost more. As he runs a business creating websites he declared an interest and asked not to be involved in any process. None of the Trustees has any expertise/experience in judging websites and prevailed upon him to use his skills to work up a user friendly professional solution to serve the VH's needs. He eventually agreed to provide a quote and knew of other companies who could also quote. He did not want to be involved in the decision as to which quotation to accept.

Confirmed to Parish Council that VH welcomes their offer to install a permanent fixed projector, screen & sound system using a grant from the local council's Build Back Better fund. (Social Club already has its own system). Person booked to quote for this didn't turn up so Jan arranged another person to quote and this has happened..[\..\..\Program Files\Google\Drive File Stream\75.0.2.0\html\ic_close_grey600_24dp.svg](#).

Attended local Coronation events and confirmed arrangements for joint fundraiser in LS church: Police MV Choir Concert Friday 8th September. More information later.

Reviewed hall hire pricing analysis Treasurer provided. Some scope for price increases to new hirers but further thought for regular hirers needed, perhaps volume discounts. He would discuss both with Manager & Treasurer before implementing any increases.

Recent issues with the water supplier are not yet satisfactorily resolved following the underground leak. Urgent attention is needed in the coming weeks.

Fundraising activities need new momentum: see later notes. Chairman thanked Penny for her continuing commitment & outstanding efforts on our behalf.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Report and Profit & Loss Statement appended to the Minute Book.

Year end A/Cs note how much has changed from 2021 – 2023. Thanks to SDC & grants the VH survived covid. There has been an impact on occasional bookings since inflatables were banned but this has been compensated for by an increase in regular hirers (thanks to Penny). The biggest costs are utility prices which have doubled. The water issue is still ongoing as the supposed leak meant that a huge volume of water was going through the meter in the road even when no-one was in the hall or social club. Meters were changed but the correct equipment is disputed and neither the water company nor ST has been back to get it sorted out properly. Treasurer & Jan B have both been heavily involved to get this resolved but Treasurer is now stepping back.

Jane was thanked for her continuing efforts selling plants from outside her home.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Secretary will file the online Charity Annual Return as soon as possible now that the YE A/Cs are to hand. This should be straightforward but there may well be changes in the questionnaire since last year. 10 months in which to do it. The Charity's official contact is Trustee David Pearson. Secretary will make it available to Trustees in due course.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Penny happy to have a caretaker at last. He is already familiarising himself with the hall & carrying out minor works, such as the soft door closer in the corridor. Once settled he will take over any "emergency" situations that crop up. He was also clearing up overgrown weeds at the back & Penny found neighbours who have kept mowing the grass for us & planted some flowers to keep it tidy – thanks to those people.

The slope outside kitchen exit gets slippery & Irena loaned VH use of her battery operated pressure washer. Kevin has washed the slope now. The post by the gate has disappeared. If/when it is found it can be skipped.

A new drama group did not have enough takers to make it work but a local established Tai Chi teacher has booked a weekly class starting in September & Penny will help him advertise classes nearer the time. Penny can pass on details to anyone interested. Full Report attached to the Minutes.

There have been complaints about unauthorised parking & reports of verbal abuse when hirers try to explain that they need to park at the hall. Sometimes they can't do so at all & are late attending. This matter was discussed at length, with various suggestions such

as a coded control entry barrier or occasional in-house clamping as the gate has not worked. The ownership of the grass strip dividing the 2 CPs is uncertain.

PARKING

Unauthorised parking is an issue for VH & SC users, particularly during football matches & practice sessions & more so lately during the pavilion refurbishment. However, this has been an ongoing, fractious issue on & off for many years. Our users are suffering abuse as noted, so a permanent solution is needed. The Parish Council, as a Continuing Body and landowner, could offer that solution as a real benefit for parishioners. Chris Connett advised that the PC had looked at installing a car park some years ago near the tennis courts but had dropped the idea due to the cost. He would raise this matter with the Chair & V Chair to get it discussed as soon as possible, ideally at their 6th June meeting. Secretary would draft a letter for the Chairman to send to the PC.

SOCIAL CLUB REPORT

Parking is an issue for them too when it is busy with other activities. They wonder whether parking lines might help.

Going well so far but as the 2 pubs are reopening, SC would like a couple of tables outside their doors where no-one parks to use during the summer as they've noticed that trade drops when it is sunny & folks want to be outside. Agreed to allow SC to have tables for a trial period with a review at the end of summer, on condition that there are no complaints about noise from neighbours. They must rope round them for safety. Some dog walkers have been leaving poo bags in the hedge which is extremely anti-social, especially when there are bins installed around the place.

SC has put a new lock on their connecting door. 2 keys will be delivered to the Manager. Business is good but will probably slow down a bit. They have some nice new furniture and will host a Quiz last Sunday June (25th). VH Chair will try to get a team in there. They have a singer on 29th July. Chairman thanked AF & BF for attending and is impressed how SC has grabbed the opportunities and done so well.

VILLAGE HALL CLEAN UP DAY (OUTSIDE MAINLY/INSIDE POSSIBLY)

Saturday 24th June 10am. Entrance doors, weeds, sweeping, hedge, kitchen radiator....

FUNDRAISING UPDATE & EVENTS

Richard & Ali have thought about this and propose the following:

Saturday 15 th July	Summer Quiz – agreed, booked in diary. **
Sunday 3 rd September	Sale Trail 11 – 4 – agreed, booked in diary.
Friday 8 th September	Police MV Choir in church 7.30pm – booked in diary. **
Saturday 21 st October	Wine & Cheese Tasting evening – agreed, booked in diary. **
Saturday 9 th December	Christmas Fayre – agreed, booked in diary.

** Ticket events.

And for 2024:

Early in February A Quiz Night ** no date yet fixed.

Summer

Summer Show/Fête with entrants, classes, dog show, villagey things. Not on as a grand a scale as formerly, but a lot to plan for. And advertising these events in sequence is needed.

The Fund Raising target was to match last year's 7,500. We are at £13k now. RH Decided to defer the Stage 2 Platinum Jubilee Grant Fund application as works would have to start within 12 months of its approval & it is very unlikely we will have raised the c. £35K we estimate is required by mid 2024, even with the £9K grant. If we can reach £20K by year end and another 5K after next year we should be able to get the £9K. We should update the one quote we have and seek 3 quotes altogether later.

ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

Following complaints, the Chairman asked Social Club to ensure that checks and cleaning of the toilets is carried out at the end of every session. They just need a bucket, cloth, spray and gloves to carry out this simple operation to avoid users coming in next morning to find they have to clean up before the loos can be used when they already have to make sure they are clean after their own event. AF was already aware of this issue & confirmed that this was being implemented. She added that they too have sometimes found the ladies toilets not so clean for their customers.

There have also been occasions when small children have been discovered alone in the corridor, kitchen and toilets. Whilst children are, of course, welcome on the premises, leaving them alone is strictly against VH Policy and a safeguarding issue. Children must be accompanied by an adult at all times. One occasion was referred to which disrupted a class in the hall several times. This matter has also been dealt with so that this kind of thing does not happen again.

DATE OF NEXT VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE MEETING Tuesday 25th July 7.30pm.

There will need to be separate meetings to arrange/finalize details for the upcoming events. As our Committee is very small we would appreciate any offers of help, large or small over the coming months if we are to reach our target.

