

LEONARD STANLEY VILLAGE HALL

MINUTES of Village Hall Management Committee meeting held on Tuesday 19th September 2023 from 7.30PM.

APOLOGIES: Pat Hearne, Julie Cull, Roy Wilkes.

T = Treasurer.

PRESENT: Chairman/Trustee Richard Hubble, Trustees David Pearson (also rep Wine Circle), Bobbie Ireland T, Jan Bogdiukiewicz, Phil Herbert. Also Chris Phillips Friendship Group, Chris Connett rep LSPC, Nadine Phillips SC Secretary, Penny Scott VH Manager, Kevin Turfrey Caretaker, Ali Hubble Supporter/fundraising, Jane Roberts Secretary.

Nadine Phillips had not received an email meeting invitation. Secretary would check that she is on the distribution list. (YES)

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING (AGM) held 25th July 2023, circulated previously, accepted as a true record after correcting the cleaner's note: She does not work on Saturdays. Proposed: P Herbert, seconded Kevin Turfrey.

MATTERS ARISING

Hall Hire Pricing Review still outstanding. Action to be carried forward. Other Items will be dealt with later here.

Chairman confirmed that fundraising is the hall's primary focus. Bank Holiday Sale Trail made just under £300 including Jane's plant & table sales. Turnout higher than expected. Recent Police MV Choir event at church was well attended (90), and very well received. £866 made, 50/50 split, £433 for VH! Our target of £15K by year end is within reach. RH was concerned that so few tickets were sold by VH; most sold by Julia & Pat/church. Very many thanks to them all. He felt "we" need to pull our weight in future.

Next FR event scheduled is a Wine & Cheese Tasting Saturday 21st October. RH has secured the support of Vinotopia & Godsells. Total cost/head £20 includes glass of fizz, canapes & 5 different wines to taste, 8 glasses /bottle. We would need to get 50 people, selling tickets @ £25 each. A raffle & a cut of any wines sold would earn extra funds. After careful discussion it was reluctantly decided not to proceed with this event as it would be too costly to expect sufficient take up.

A more general discussion ensued of what type of FR events could be pursued: They need to appeal to lots of people and be cheap & easy to put on, especially as our team is so small & is getting to be hard work. Communications/advertising/publicity need to be improved though.

Curry Nights have been popular locally in the past.

Fancy dress theme nights & a change of decoration in the VH have also worked well.

A Bingo Night seemed appealing, maybe with an optional fancy dress competition.

A Race Night*, which does not need a licence could be good. (But Church is doing it in Feb!)

Halloween/Valentine party Night suggested. Too late for former but consider latter.

Another Quiz is too soon but can be done next year.

Gap (21st October) to fill! It was decided to run a BINGO NIGHT! which should raise £2-300 @ £5/head + refreshments. Saturday afternoon table set up is required. Nibbles, S Rolls/cakes & Majestic wines as per previously works well.

The Christmas Fayre on Saturday 9th December ends the year. Penny/Ali to co-ordinate getting the tables sold to sellers. She suggested that there might be a joint trail for adults & children to enjoy – a Christmas theme perhaps – to encourage more people out. Clashes with KS activities should be avoided, so perhaps there could be a Spring Easter themed Trail.

We need lots of help promoting (all events) plus posters everywhere and separate meets before each event to confirm/firm up on details.

Penny offered to use FB to gather feedback from local people to help provide the most attractive events.

WATER LEAKS in the loos have been fixed and the source of the smell identified and rectified. That was a leaking pipe under the floor which must have been going on for years. Grateful thanks to BT & Social Club particularly for what was a disgusting job, well done!

UNAUTHORISED PARKING mostly by visiting footballers (FC), is becoming a nuisance yet again to our regular users who need to park in the CP. They are not always very approachable, and responses vary, including obnoxious behaviour, when asked politely to move out. Recently a regular user tried to turn 10 out and is fed up being in this position. Jan also turned 12 out on the recent Film Club morning. Problems occur several times a week depending on what sessions are on. LSPC has given permission for visitors to use the field entrance and park there but this does not seem to work out. LSVH has signs up which are routinely ignored.

There does not seem to be a conflict with SC users who have their allocated parking area & very few drive there. Marking out specifically allocated parking bays was discussed & RH would get quotes for this. NP (SC) would get some too. She felt that the SC was largely unaware that there was a problem.

Erecting a key controlled barrier was also discussed. A certain scepticism as to whether it will work but, again, quotes would be sought, as they should not be as expensive as feared. The existing gate is rarely closed after use and the steel post has yet again been knocked aside so there is again an open invitation to use the CP. PH will get his contact to have another go at straightening it. For now, locking the gate every night was the only solution even if cars are in there. PS had not had any useful response from the Police as to the legality of this.

The idea of the FC having Marshalls to direct visitors to the parking areas for every session was discussed. Lack of personnel should not be an issue as parents could/should be prepared to offer themselves on a rota, or FC could pay someone. However, it is not actually the responsibility of LSVH to liaise with the FC or Sharks leaders, although this has been done in the past. That responsibility lies with LSPC which owns the field & pavilion which they greatly improved recently. FC is also understood to have spent c £10k to upgrade/decorate inside.

There is a new FC Chairman following resignation of Andy Roberts.

Chris Connett will put all this to the next LSPC meeting (3/10/23), but asks LSVH to write (again) to LSPC, asking for it to be on their Agenda, and send a rep to that meeting. There have over the years been many discussions and it is understood various quotations sought, all too expensive to proceed. RH unable to attend, D Pearson would. Meanwhile, CC would speak to the Chairman.

NEW WEBSITE Chairman had ordered it, & should be ready by the beginning of October.

TREASURER'S REPORT Vodaphone contract @ £32.49 pm ceased, now £11 + VAT pm. Q2 Electricity £1641.64: 4 years' VAT payments were refunded recently £1K+; as a Charity we

should not have been paying VAT. DD Water payments currently on hold as a new meter was fitted. Their original bill was challenged & a "leak refund" applied for; further correspondence awaited.

£180 paid to SDC for a Licence and Merretts £175.16 for loo leaks & heating issue. New website £540. Sale Trail/Hall event raised £295.55 including £44.60 from Jane's Table & plant sales. Also her further plant sales £60. Coffee mornings people raised £100 recently. The Total Bank Balance as of 19th September 2023 is £22,206.86. The New Roof Fund balance is £14,157.35 Add to that £433 from Choir & £70 from Air Fryer, makes £14,660.35.

Copies of the Full Report and Profit & Loss updates were circulated to Trustees and appended to the Minute Book.

SECRETARY'S REPORT Charity Commission Annual Return has not yet been made as CC is still updating its interactive website to allow us to do so. JR is liaising with DP who is monitoring the website regularly to test whether it is ready and has also spent time on this matter. They are also asking for a lot more information, which has to be uploaded to them when it is ready so we will have to liaise with the Treasurer to furnish information they require. It seems that the CC is treating even tiny Charities much the same as the huge ones. Meanwhile, JS is also logging on to alter a couple of minor details concerning the Trustees but this function does not work and JS can't alter her email address on it either. NP kindly offered her assistance, should it be needed.

Carried forward til completion.

JS had hastily applied for a grant for local bodies from Redrow spotted in the SNJ, telling the FR Story & picking the need for some proper taps and sink unit asking for £500. Lots of others applied too so we'll only know if we succeed. However, we may get in with a chance next time? JS has sold another £42 in plant sales which will be transferred to LSVH shortly.

MANAGER'S REPORT is always circulated to all hall users with encouraging information. Social Club now employs a daily morning cleaner, this in addition to our afternoon routine. This must be making a huge difference as there have been no complaints. The disabled toilet door now has its lock and users know how to get the key. Aforementioned gatepost to be repaired hopefully.

A grit bin should be purchased before any icy weather as ice tends to collect around the porch. Ali/Penny will source a lockable one (? c£100) to ensure that the contents are not stolen.

Bookings are going quite well but not so many parties since bouncy castles were banned and not so many occasional bookings. Supastrikers have just started Friday weekly classes, welcome to Donna. Thankfully, regular hirers are still happy with the hall. It was agreed we need to support them. PS is also chatting to someone new about a possible new class, so wait and see. PS full report is appended to the Minute Book.

SOCIAL CLUB Nadine Phillips reported that the new committee has settled in well and they are working towards being a community hub, supporting other groups including the VH. They've invested in better sound & TV & proactively managing the Club as a business. They appreciated the Choir visitors' impromptu singing at their Afterglow event following their performance at church. They are running monthly Quiz Nights as they are popular.

One observation though: the soap dispensers appear to have been tampered with and most of it used up. Caretaker had noticed this and sorted it out although it is generally something that our cleaner would not overlook. So it is a mystery as to why this should have happened.

Their posters on toilet doors have all been removed. Posters are extremely useful advertisers & whilst this has been discouraged in the past it was agreed that it was not worth arguing about. However, any out of date posters should be removed promptly from the permitted areas whether that be the hall corridor or SC which welcomes ours.

NP emailed round about a black car which hit & damaged a car bumper a couple of Mondays ago which would have been during or after a Friendship Group Mtg. It also knocked over & spilled a tin of paint. The person drove off. They would like to know if anyone saw anything.

SC is going to replace their alarm and looking into getting CCTV installed.

They noted that their Annual Occupational Licence is up for renewal soon. This can't be discussed now but they would like to have a discussion with Trustees to tidy it up a bit as they feel it is rather antiquated.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Jan echoed RH's thoughts about the lack of co-ordination re ticket selling on the joint venture. We could have sold all 120 tickets available.

CHURCH IS HAVING

Apple Day on 8th October

Quiz on 13th October

Murder Mystery 3 Course Meal 1st December (fully booked/waiting list)

Organisation for that started 2 months ago.

Film Club 3rd Saturday morning in January with an Abba Singalong in the evening

Film Club 3rd Saturday morning in February with a Race Night in the evening

Any sponsors for the latter????

Phil Herbert asked whether the new Social Club Chairman had managed to discover any likely sources of grants from his contact at the Subs. He has been working on it but the directory is a very long one and he will keep on it.

A meeting before the Bingo Night is needed: A short, one hour mtg on Sunday early evening 1st October at the hall. The posters could/should be put out very soon.

Meeting closed at 9pm. There followed a brief, private meeting of Trustees.

Footnote/Addendum: Chris Phillips mentioned that some social club members park their cars alongside the hedge which makes it more difficult for people to reverse (especially if they are old). Nadine said they did not, but when we left that evening after meeting, there were 3 cars parked by hedge.

DATE OF NEXT LSVH COMMITTEE MEETING: Tuesday 21st November 2023.