

ENFORD RECREATION GROUND AND VILLAGE HALL TRUST

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING 20 FEBRUARY 2024 AT 7.30 PM

Present: Judy D'Arcy Irvine, Hamish Scott-Dalgleish, David Spencer, Hannah Tucker, Jane Young, Jackie Elkins

Also present: Chris Rose, Lewis Honeywill, Alexis Mitchel-Rowe
Apologies : Steve Todd, Anthony D'Arcy Irvine

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting Tuesday 20 November 2023 were proposed and seconded.

2. TREASURER'S REPORT

Steps had been taken to enable online banking to be available at HSBC, but not yet concluded. During the meeting Chris Rose referred to the bank charges and advised that Lloyds Bank had a more accommodating stance to voluntary and charitable organisations. Judy advised that she would look into options with Lloyds Bank.

Income for the period to date was down but so were expenses resulting in a surplus of £3,150. However, a number of regular annual costs were due to be incurred in the next two quarters which will impact on figures, and the next Treasurer's report may give a more accurate picture. Non local hire was the biggest faller and there were no obvious reasons other than the current financial climate.

3. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Judy had prepared a forecast for the year which indicated a possible deficit for the year of approx £3,000. A detailed analysis of all items of expenditure followed, with electricity being the biggest cost followed by cleaning. Judy advised that there was an issue with the heat pump that might cost £500 to resolve and the engineer had been asked to come and service the unit. Hamish was concerned that the cost of heating water might be increasing costs but Judy felt that this was not necessarily the case. One of the two 500 litre water tanks was currently decommissioned as there are no football clubs using the showers but Judy will ask the engineer to also check the tanks.

The cleaning contractors were considered to be good but expensive but it was concluded that they were worth the cost as a clean hall was always valued. An increase to £17 per hour was agreed. The cleaners were also going to be engaged in painting woodwork with Sadolin at a cost of £20 per hour.

Judy mentioned the possibility of giving the inside of the hall a single coat of paint but this was not further discussed other than agreeing to monitor the situation as and when it might be needed.

Judy and Alexis are planning to attend an event organized by Wiltshire Village Halls Association on 21 February at Kington Langley Village Hall entitled "Retro Fitting and Energy Measures for Village Halls". It might be helpful with the plans to fit Smart Thermostats and any other projects to improve energy use.

Judy asked Committee Members to review the Village Hall Hire Charges and the aide memoire document given to all users of the Village Hall. It was agreed to keep hire charges at the current level for 2024.

4. MAINTENANCE AND GROUNDS REPORT

- Repairs to the Close Circuit TV were in hand. A quotation had been received for £322.32 incl vat to replace the faulty camera and the wiring.
- Some tiling was needed on the wall in the disabled loo where the chair had been wrenched off.
- Parking on the recreation ground when the main car park is full was discussed. Cars cause damage to the field when the ground is affected by heavy rain especially in the winter months, as had happened recently on the occasion of the Cricket Club Quiz Night. There was a funeral planned in a week's time which might result in the same problem as many people and cars were expected. Jane kindly offered the use of the barn's yard next door to the car park which would mean the field would not be needed.

5. CLUB REPORTS

- The Film Club may need new screen and projector which were being researched by Clive Bullen. The suggestion is for a wall mounted screen with remote control as the current one takes two people 20 minutes to put up and also possibly a ceiling mounted projector, but it is not known if this may be problematic due to the acoustic ceiling. It may be possible to apply for a grant towards the costs.
- Junior Football Club. Memo was circulated to the Committee which had been received from Steve Todd who works tirelessly to keep it going and which he does with great success. There may be a concern that if Steve gives it up it will be difficult to find a replacement.
- Short Mat Bowls and Gardening Club are both doing well.

6. PROJECTS

- The installation of Broadband by BT was proving problematic due to issues with Royal Mail not having the Hall officially listed with an address. Hamish was hopeful that it would eventually be sorted. When installed it would be necessary to check if the package chosen is suitable for Smart Thermostats and it is the right package for the Film Club and Live streaming. This would have to be checked within 14 days of installation. The cost would be around £35 per month.
- Installation charges with new Smart thermostats for remote control would be around £750.00 and a quotation had been requested from Nathan Abbott, the electrician.

7. FUTURE EVENTS

Annual Fete. Chris Rose (Enford Community) gave a brief synopsis of his hopes for the Fete which was welcomed. It had previously been agreed that Enford Community would pay in future for use of the hall and grounds for the Summer Fete and the Fireworks Night to help cover the Hall's costs for these events..

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- As they had previously offered to help Judy asked Chris Rose and Alexis Mitchel-Rowe if they would like to join the Village Hall Committee. Although they declined to become Committee Members Alexis indicated that she may be available when she had decided on work opportunities. Chris also agreed to help with marketing and social media. He advised that he had done some homework on marketing opportunities available to the Village Hall and was optimistic that more could be done to attract more business.

- Hamish was concerned that the availability of the Hall free of charge to the Enford Newsletter group had not been discussed despite much internal correspondence between Jeni and Judy on the subject. Judy explained that it had been previously agreed by the Committee that it was becoming very difficult to favour one group over another when they requested free use of the Hall and/or preferential treatment. The Hall incurred costs whenever it was used. On this occasion she had suggested to the Newsletter one option which was that the Hall would pay for its notices published in the Newsletter every month and the Newsletter in turn would be charged for use of the Hall for its meetings. This cross charging would hopefully result in a 'net zero' situation for the Newsletter and would conform with agreed Village Hall policy of treating everyone the same. As she had been informed a few days before the Committee Meeting that the Newsletter would not be using the Hall the matter had not been included on the Agenda.
- Jane had been given a fine silver cup which was originally awarded at the Enford Gymkhana held annually on the recreation ground until the mid 1980's. It was suggested that the cup could be awarded as a trophy for the Dog Show at the Fete and it was agreed that this was a good idea.

9. FUTURE EVENTS FOR 2024

- Annual Fete Saturday 22 June
- Remembrance Sunday Lunch Sunday 10 November
- Fireworks Night Saturday 26 October – to be confirmed

9. FUND RAISING

Ideas put forward were Bridge Drive, Race Night, Auction of Promises

Judy offered to organize a Bridge Drive but volunteers would be needed to organize a Race Night or an Auction of Promises event

10. PROVISIONAL DATES FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

2024 Tuesday 28 May/Tuesday 23 July/Tuesday 24 September (AGM)/Monday 18 November

2025 Tuesday 25 February/Tuesday 27 May/Tuesday 22 July/Tuesday 23 September (AGM)/
Tuesday 11 November