

Minutes of the Enford Village Hall Committee Meeting
Held on Tuesday 8th March 2016

Present: Judy D'Arcy-Irvine, Steve Becker, Hannah Tucker, David Spencer, Sally Parker, Jane Young, Jacqui Elkins, Maggie Maund

The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting

1. Apologies: Anthony D'Arcy-Irvine, Hamish Scott-Dalgleish, Kev Bennetts, Ollie Stagg, Jonah Jones

2. Minutes of Committee Meeting 12th January 2016

Acceptance of the previous Minutes was proposed by Sally Parker, seconded by Jacqui Elkins and agreed unanimously.

3. Matters Arising:

There were no matters arising.

4. Treasurer's Report:

The Treasurer provided the members with a copy of the Recreation Ground and Village Hall funds analysis for the period of 1 July 2015 to 8 March 2016.

The Treasurer explained that the income figures reported at the last meeting for Classes/Sessions had been mistakenly transposed to Non Local Hire but had now been corrected.

Income of £6,166.50 is down on last year's figure of £7,247 for the same period.. However expenses are also slightly down at £4,273.87 as opposed to £4,769.94. Overall the surplus from 1 July 2015 to 8 March 2016 is £4,118.83 whereas last year for the same period the surplus was £4,068.56.

5. Chairman's Report:

The Chairman informed the meeting that there had been a substantial leak that day from water pipes in the attic which had been damaged by mice or rats. The Chairman will phone the local council to arrange professional pest control before more damage is done and to establish the extent of the problem.

In the forthcoming months the VH has seven bookings for weddings, two for Government Elections (Brexit and Police Commissioner), one children's party and five private parties. This is a good number of events for this, and the next, Financial Year. Private events help finances and also help keep charges down for regular clubs and classes.

Art classes have been booked for this term. Hamish had approached the Council regarding Adult Education classes and details of the Hall had been passed to them.

The concert on Saturday 5th March by Jane Taylor and Lizz Lipscombe had been extremely successful.

The Fair Trade event in aid of Fair Trade suppliers was also very good and well attended. The Durrington Choir gave a performance and supper was provided.

The Football Foundation require another report. A telephone conference has been arranged but the Chairman had suggested a visit to help the FF appreciate the difficulties surrounding football in rural areas. The VH is in year 7 of a 21 year contract with the Football Foundation due to the grant we had received from them.

The VH Annual Accounts together with a Trustees' Report had been submitted to the Charity Commission.

There had been an accident to the stockade and Judy would obtain a quotation for the cost of repair. The damage had been done by the parent of a child attending Youth Club. Judy would ask Jonah to follow up with the parent to establish whether they wished to pay for the damage direct or submit a claim to their own insurance company. It was agreed by the Committee that the damage should be paid for by either the individual or by the Youth Club.

It had also been reported by a hirer that the VH had not been clean on Saturday 5th March after the Youth Club had used it. The Chairman will email Jonah to advise him of this.

6. Maintenance/Grounds Officer Reports:

At a recent private event in January there had been problems with cars getting stuck due to the ground being very wet, and some damage had also occurred. It was decided the area could not be used for parking until it has dried out. Hamish had undertaken to research how to improve the area. Due to the position of the main sewer which runs across the bottom of the recreation ground there is a seven metre moratorium over and alongside the path of the sewer which prevents any excavation or digging so any 'matting' must be installed on the surface or only just below. In the meantime when the weather improves Hamish will roll the ground to level the ruts.

The electrician will be coming to repair the emergency lights. Maintenance to the electrics and plumbing is ongoing with further work required on the urinals and repairs to the pipes in the attic.

7. User Group/Club Report:

Only six children had attended last Saturday's Junior Football Club. It may be necessary to publicise the Junior Football Club more widely to encourage more children to attend. The Club also helps to satisfy the Football Foundation requirements.

The Enford Football Club uses the VH field about twice a month. The pitch cannot take any more use in wet weather.

Some weeks the Youth Club struggles to find enough volunteers to help. If there are not enough adult helpers the session has to be cancelled.

The Camera, Film, Gardening and Short Mat Bowling Clubs are all doing well.

8. Projects completed: n/a

9. Future Projects:

a). Stockade Shed:

Steve had found a metal shed for around £500 and a quote had been obtained for a purpose built wooden shed at around £750. However, it was mentioned that metal sheds are liable to condensation. It may be better to reassess the need for extra storage and whether alternative storage is needed for the Football Clubs.

b). Car Park Lighting:

At the last meeting it was decided to draw up a survey regarding the Car Park Lighting. This has been produced, along with other pertinent questions, and will be disseminated at the next Film Night.

c). Annual Maintenance:

A date of the 14th May has been suggested to undertake annual maintenance of the VH with volunteers. The Chairman will check the VH diary to ensure there is no clash with any other events. Maintenance will include the window sills being varnished with Sadolin and the gutters cleaned. The leak to the gutters may just be a joint issue in which case the joints will be sealed. Stones on the patio will be lifted to level them out as they are beginning to cause a trip hazard. The broken drawer in the kitchen will be repaired or replaced.

Quinton Brown will undertake the annual redecoration of the entrance hall, main hall and corridor the weekend of 18/19/20 March. The funeral on the 19th March may include a wake being held in the VH and Quinton's schedule may therefore have to be changed. The Chairman will speak to Quinton regarding this.

Please let Judy, David or Steve know if anyone becomes aware of any maintenance issues. The Chairman will also be organising a general spring clean of the VH and an inventory check - volunteers to help would be most welcome.

d.) Broadband/WIFI:

The cost of providing Broadband or Wifi by either BT or satellite would be approximately £25-£40 per month. Also BT would charge about £150 to connect the line plus £13 per month line rental. There is not much demand from hirers at the moment for internet access. It was decided to see whether demand for this facility will increase and we can then reassess at that point. The VH does already have a WiBe box which can be set up on request to provide internet access for meetings and one off events. The cost is then passed to the hirer.

e). Other projects/improvements:

The Chairman explained that grants of up to £1k are available from the Area Board with anything over £1k match funded by the VH at 50%. Therefore some money is available for VH improvements. Suggestions included purchasing new light weight round tables, table trolleys and plastic chairs. However, the VH already has 50 plastic chairs which are stored in the football store. Jane asked if these could be used by the Youth Club for craft activities and David will put some in the main storage cupboard for ease of access.

Another suggestion was applying for a grant for the plastic grid for the parking area and the possibility of a bigger stage for performances such as the concert last Saturday night. If possible a second stage to match the current one would be a good idea. A new shed, however, may be needed before more equipment is bought due to the current lack of storage.

Steve suggested that a grant could be obtained to buy a new projector screen as the current screen is very difficult to erect. He said a permanent pull down screen would be easier to use. The Chairman undertook to ask the Steeple Ashton VH for advice on their screen and more research will be needed.

Steve also suggested that, at a cost of £80 to £90, trunking could be provided around the dado rail for wiring to the sound system. Steve suggested the need to ensure that the sound system was right before any trunking is installed.

9. Future Events:

The films scheduled for the next Film Nights are 'The Lady in the Van' and 'The Bridge of Spies'.

A performance of 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' will held on the 14th June. People will be encouraged to bring picnics, rugs etc., but if the weather is inclement, the performance can be moved into the VH.

The Enford Fete will be held on Saturday 26th June 2016.

At the previous meeting, Hannah had made a number of suggestions regarding future events for this and next year which were considered very good. Although volunteers to organise a quiz should be found easily, it may be more difficult to organise meals and therefore an entertainments and/or food committee may be necessary.

Other suggestions for future events were talks by the Dogs' Trust and Wine Tasting.

The Harvest Supper which had been suggested might conflict with any event the church may be organising.

It was decided that an advertisement would be put into the next Newsletter asking for volunteers to organise an event for the Queen's 90th Birthday (possibly a children's party and hog roast (which would cost £600)).

Liam Scott has trimmed the trees around the notice board and entrance lights. He may be asked to trim back the hedges to improve sight lines around the outer edges of the VH and possibly plant some new saplings. Angus, the farmer, has trimmed the hedge further along the road (and was paid in flapjacks!). Hopefully this work will also be done next year. Any dead trees which are removed can be given to people for firewood.

To raise funds, it was suggested the village hold an Open Garden event which could be in conjunction with the Queen's Birthday event. Tea, scones etc. could be provided in one or two gardens and this could organised with the Gardening Club. The Chairman will ask the Gardening Club and The Hub whether they would be willing to organise something along these lines. Hannah volunteered to make a cake.

10. Dates for 2016 / 2017 Meetings:

Dates proposed are:

17 May / 12 July / 13 Sep AGM / 8 Nov 2016

10 Jan / 7 Mar / 16 May / 11 July / 12 Sep AGM / 14 Nov 2017

11. Any Other Business:

There being no other business to discuss Judy thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting.