

**Minutes of the Enford Village Hall Committee Meeting**  
**Held on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2016**

**Present:** Judy D'Arcy-Irvine, Steve Becker, Hannah Tucker, David Spencer, Hamish Scott-Dalgleish, Ollie Stagg, Jane Young, Jacqui Elkins, Maggie Maund

1. **Apologies:** Sally Parker, Anthony D'Arcy-Irvine, Kevin Bennetts, Jonah Jones

2. **Minutes of Committee Meeting 8<sup>th</sup> March 2016**

The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting. The Minutes of the 8<sup>th</sup> March had mistakenly recorded the date for the Enford Village Fete as 26<sup>th</sup> June when the correct date is 25<sup>th</sup>. This having been noted, the acceptance of the previous Minutes was proposed by Steve Becker, seconded by Jacqui Elkins and agreed unanimously.

3. **Matters Arising:**

Any Matters Arising were included in the Agenda.

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<sup>st</sup> July 2015 to 16<sup>th</sup> May 2016.

The Treasurer explained that although income is down on the same period as last year, income from Classes/Sessions is up. Private Hirings are also down possibly as a result of fewer children's parties being booked this FY. Judy undertook to investigate why income should be down this year. It may transpire that the finances are better by the end of the FY and that fluctuations are inevitable.

The Treasurer informed the meeting that the insurance of £809.69 had been paid already, earlier than last year. Other expenditure is down but repair costs have increased (e.g. electrics, plumbing, dealing with the flooding etc). Water bills may have increased due the leaking urinal but that has now been repaired and hopefully the next water bill will be on a par with the previous year.

The Chairman said that approximately £1,500 would hopefully come in with donations from the Parish Council, the Pewsey Carnival and the Enford Community Fund. This may mean the finances are not as bad as first thought. The Chairman also informed the meeting that the PRS and PPL would each charge 1% for their licences on overall hiring income (a total of 2%) although income from the Great Bustards and donations can be deducted and offset against the total.

Charging the Parish Council for their meetings was questioned by some Committee Members. The Chairman said the Council is very supportive of the VH but charges could be made if the Committee voted to do so. However she felt that at the moment the Hall should not charge as we received a Precept donation from the Parish Council. The Hall would be asked in November to put a case forward for next year's donation from the Precept which might be the time the revisit this subject but in the meantime it was agreed to maintain the status quo.

The Treasurer informed the meeting that £5K came out of bond at the HSBC and was transferred into the current account which now stands at £15K making .005% interest.

It was decided that some money from the current account can be transferred into the Reserve account. It was also decided to reinvest the 12 month bond by Principality at a rate of 1% interest. There is also a 90 day tie up account with Scottish Widows. Hannah undertook to investigate the most advantageous interest rates so that £5K could be transferred into the best account.

It was decided that the current account should hold about £7-8K plus to cover emergencies. Hannah would look at the various accounts and the options for transferring funds.

Judy mentioned that she inspects other VHs for Hallmark Accreditation and had discovered that one asked for donations instead of selling tickets when holding events in order that they could claim Gift Aid refunds. This may not be the correct thing to do and not something the Enford VH will be following. Hannah confirmed that it was not possible to claim Gift Aid under these circumstances. Judy wanted to make the Committee aware of this issue in case the subject came up in the future.

5. **Chairman's Report:**

Steve announced that he will be leaving at the end of the year. Judy said Steve had been a great pillar of support to the VH and will be very much missed. She thanked Steve for his help over the years.

Judy informed the meeting that bookings were coming in well although there were none yet for next year. These will start coming in due course. Events still to occur included the EU Referendum, the Fete and A Midsummer Night's Dream (MSND) plus Art Classes. Although nothing had been arranged for the Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday celebrations, it was suggested that a quiz could be held next year to support her Platinum Wedding Anniversary including providing a Ploughman's meal.

The Gardening Club had not offered to help.

6. **Maintenance/Grounds Officer Report:**

It was reported that the lighting was now working well. A fire door at the end of the building was jamming and Steve undertook to have a look at it. The urinals were working and the shutters and Klargestar had been serviced. It was decided a date should be fixed for a Maintenance Day.

The damage to the Stockade had been repaired at a cost of £138. Although the person responsible had been invited to pay for the damages, they had not responded. Judy informed the meeting she may write formally to this person enclosing an invoice for the repairs to see if this approach was more fruitful. Hannah was requested to provide a copy of the invoice.

The stolen benches have gone for good and, because of the £250 excess on any insurance claim, plus a loss of three years no claims bonus, it was not worth making an insurance claim. Any replacement benches would have to be made less attractive to thieves. Suggestions included the benches being made of metal, being concreted in somehow and being prominently engraved with the VH postcode. Judy undertook to buy replacement benches when a decision had been made regarding the best way of securing them.

Hamish informed the meeting that he had investigated the parking grid situation to alleviate the flooding problems in the field. He had found a strong, malleable grid which was inexpensive. He estimated that the field would need about 60 sq. metres costing £600. The grid is just laid on the ground and strapped into place and will allow grass to grow through it. This grid is thicker than the current one. The committee discussed whether an alternative would be not to park on the field in very wet weather or cars being marshalled away from the particularly boggy areas (although this would not happen during private functions). It was also suggested to buy a smaller area of grid for the entrance to the field only to see how it worked. There was a general feeling that, with an increased likelihood of wet weather due to climate change, something more had to be done. If the grid was to be bought now, it would be grassed 'through' very quickly. Hannah was asked to obtain a firm quote including delivery and laying.

7. **User Group/Club Report:**

Jane informed the meeting that the Youth Club had been shut due to volunteers and helpers needing DRB checks. This is being addressed by Youth Action, Wilts. The club may open again in June/July or it may wait until September.

The Camera and Film Clubs were both doing well although Steve mentioned that it takes two men to put up the screen and questioned who would do this in the future. It was decided to advertise in the newsletter for helpers. However, David said that he had previously filmed straight onto the wall and this had worked well, maintaining picture quality. It was also not yet decided whether to buy a new screen which drops down from the ceiling.

The next film is 'Brooklyn' to be shown next week and there is a choice of three films for the following screenings after that.

Ollie said that there had been a number of 5-6 year old newcomers joining the Junior Football Club, making up for some of those who had moved on. He said that having a minimum of 10 children in the club makes it financially viable. It was discussed that the Hub is doing well financially and that they may like to contribute to the Junior Football Club. Ollie, however, said he did not need anything this year and was therefore not making any financial requests. What he did need were volunteers to assist with the matches and he had found it difficult to encourage parents to help out. All in all, the club was doing well and the Football Foundation were content.

The Adult Football Club was also doing o.k. but, as a team, they were not playing well. It was suggested that fixtures and results could be published in the Newsletter and although the players were not local, it may encourage people from Enford to come and support.

The Gardening, Camera and Short Mat Bowls Clubs were doing well and again, it was suggested that the Bowls Club may put a report in the Newsletter to encourage people to support the team.

8. **Projects completed:**

Quintin Brown had painted and washed down for the decorating charging a reasonable amount of £500. He had informed Judy that there are no walkways in the attic, which

for H&S purposes, there should be. He quoted £650 to make this safe which would include labour and materials.

APT, the electrical contractor, had put the lights in a fragile part of the ceiling which was now deteriorating. Quinton said that he could reinforce and support the ceiling through the attic and quoted £490 to do the work. It was suggested that the Acoustic Ceiling people should be approached, at no cost, to confirm whether his suggestions would work or not before making a decision. It was also thought that the parking grid was of more importance and the committee could let Quinton know when we could afford to go ahead.

Hamish undertook to research whether the VH building was insured for the correct amount of money with Allied Westminster Insurance.

9. **Future Projects:**

a). Annual Maintenance Day:

The flagstones are lifting and need to be levelled to prevent a trip hazard. There was a gutter leaking near the front door. A new kitchen drawer had been bought and needs fitting. Hand rails need to be Sadolined. The weeds have been killed. It was decided to arrange a date suitable to everyone so that these things could be addressed, but generally we were keeping on top of the maintenance.

Judy mentioned that she would like to try to spring clean the building.

David said that he had seen one light permanently on at the corner of the roof and wondered if this was normal. It is not normal to be on when no one is using the hall so Steve undertook to see if the motion sensor timer had been adjusted.

b). Extra storage:

People had been managing storage o.k. but it would help if they followed the storage diagram when putting equipment away. Ollie was asked if he would have any objection to moving the football equipment into the stockade and he said he didn't. The extra storage provided may be used by the Youth Club who have a lot of stuff and it was decided to wait and see if/when they came back before organising any move.

c). Other ideas:

Steve suggested that the film club equipment could be renewed or updated. He said the volume cannot be adjusted at the back and front of the hall and that it would be good to get a proper sound system. Another stage would also be useful and the Area Board may give a grant for these. Steve undertook to investigate.

10. **Future Events:**

A Midsummer Night's Dream will held on the 14<sup>th</sup> 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 25<sup>th</sup> June.

A Remembrance Sunday Lunch in aid of the ABF and Enford Church will be held on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> November.

11. **Proposed Dates for 2016 Committee Meeting:** 12<sup>th</sup> July / 13<sup>th</sup> September AGM / 10<sup>th</sup> January 2017 / 7<sup>th</sup> March / 16<sup>th</sup> May.
  
12. **Any Other Business:**  
There being no other business to discuss Judy thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting at 8.50pm.