

HERSTMONCEUX VILLAGE HALL

Management Committee Meeting held on 14th September 2015

1. **Present:**-Jo Angear : Joyce Burt : Bryan Naish : Mary McBurney (in the Chair) : Ian Stewart : Gerald McBurney :
2. **Apologies :** Karen Hathaway :Karena Mayhew : Chris Thompson, (elsewhere in Hall so available if needed).
3. **Attending :** Rhys Clatworthy
4. **Attending at Chairperson's request:** Sheila Charlton.
5. **Minutes of last meeting.** Previously circulated. Minutes agreed and signed.
6. **Matters Arising:** (a) Ian S asked about fixing of memorial plaque and possible lighting. Committee awaiting plaque details. The measurements that have so far been provided would enable the plaque to be sited on the wall to the left of the French doors to the Lounge. This would site the plaque, appropriately, near to the flower trough and the original war memorial from the old village hall.
(b)Skateboarding on access road. Agreed that a sign showing general disclaimer of Hall's responsibility for unauthorised roadway and car park use should be purchased and displayed. Ian and Rhys agreed to liaise.
7. **Hon. Treasurer's Report.** (a) July Income £2841., Expenditure £680.24p. Aug. Income £2975.28p., Expenditure £3424.25p. This extra spend in large part due to Hall insurance premium of £1051.27p. (b) Electricity agreement with Scottish Power due to end this winter. (c) Hall has £2500 banked which was grant from Parish Council towards sewage problem. Treasurer wondered if this might go towards windows replacement. Jo Angear pointed out that windows in lounge were not very effective at keeping wind out. It also noted again that Emergency Exit door was a poor fit. Ian S. would try, again, to get it repaired. (d) Annual accounts with Andrew Philips. Ian will keep in contact with him to avoid possible delay as last year. (e) Treasurer thought the protective aim, for Trustees, of converting to Company Community Interest,(CCI) status might be more straight forward if we were to move to that of a Charity Incorporated Organisation, (CIO) which can be done through the Charity Commissioners. This may entail moving Hall's financial year end to that of March rather than Dec. Ian to persue.
8. **Caretakers Report.** (a) Income value 2015 to date. £38,091. 8% up on last year. Next year's bookings are at £30,184. This increase of 4% compared with this time last year. (b) Tumble Tops not paid last account. Rhys to look into and let Mary M know if problems. (c) Electricity July was £203.98, 5wk period. For Aug. was £154.31 (d) Pumps and drains no problem to date, been checked by firm. Chairperson wondered about pursuing situation of bins for dirty nappies. Who empty and how often? Rhys confirmed cleaners clear personal female bins. Joyce B thought parents take dirty nappies home. Decided that Mary M will get small bin and see how things go. : Room clock needed repair or replacing. Brian N will contact local repairer first. : Fire door in Small Hall found wedged open recently. Ian S had found playgroup furniture left out.

Mary M will speak with Karen H. Hearing Loop needs checking. Mary M will arrange. ?

9. **Access Road.** Complications had arisen over clarifying Parish Council decision(s) over taking on responsibility for the access road, it being thought, by Hall reps who attended the PC meeting, that the PC had also taken over responsibility for repairs as well as the roadway itself. A previously undelivered letter from the PC was subsequently emailed to the Hall Chairperson suggesting that it had been agreed at the PC meeting that the Hall would be expected to share a percentage of the cost of any repair. A further letter from the PC, (of the same date as the previous letter), was received by the Hall Chairperson which stated that the issue of roadway repair costs had in fact not been discussed at the PC meeting and still needed to be settled.

Ian S reminded meeting that the surgery had 'full and free rights' over roadway and its only liability was for the additional strip of road. Village Hall currently has responsibility for older road but when removed from Village hall lease then PC has responsibility. Ian thought it unlikely VH could fund maintenance of old roadway. Jo A mentioned her understanding that the surgery would be willing to play a part in road maintenance costs. Brian N thought fair division of cost would be 80 % Parish Council and 20% Surgery. Ian agreed to Chairperson's request that he take over negotiations involving transfer of responsibility to the PC. Ian will compose letter, for Hall Chairperson to sign, to PC confirming he will be Hall representative. Ian S confirmed that he will not charge the Village Hall for his legal services. MM thanked him for this offer.

10. **Spring Cleaning Day.** Agreed Saturday 21st Nov. Mary M to contact Lunch Club organisers and HATS to see if they too can help. ?
11. **Fund Raising.** Agreed not do Christmas Draw. . Ian S wondered if we could do something in New Year. (a) Bryan N offered to arrange a Bingo session hopefully with help from Bingo Club. (b) Possibility of Quiz night raised
12. **AOB.** (a) Brian N wondered about the Queens 90th birthday celebrations and whether a Street Party might be popular? Brian N offered to make some enquires to get ball possibly rolling. Suggested that we would need to book hall as alternative if weather bad. Friends of Castle may have plans for a 'do' at the castle.. Sheila C. kindly offered to find out what position is. (b) Jo A asked if the Play Group were sharing Hall office? Rhys confirmed that they have use of the second desk for a couple of times a week because he considers their use of corridor, as temporary office, a fire risk. They are not paying additional rent for this facility. Treasurer confirmed the Play group are valuable users of the Hall paying one seventh of Hall income. MM has been aware of this arrangement and agreed to speak to Karen H.

Next meetings;- Monday October 12th 2015-09-18
Monday November 9th 2015

Bryan Naish tenders apologies for Oct 12th

