

MINUTES OF HERSTMONCEUX VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL ON MONDAY 12TH SEPTEMBER 2016

Present

Chris Thompson (Chairman) Sheila Charlton (Secretary) Ian Stewart (Treasurer) Bryan Naish
Karena Mayhew Joyce Burt Karen Hathaway Rhys Clatworthy

Apologies - Jo Angear and Cllr Malcolm Bradshaw

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 11TH JULY 2016

The minutes having been circulated were signed as a true record of that meeting

MATTERS ARISING

The safety curtains order has been placed with Creative Curtains of Hailsham and should be delivered by the end of September

Parking Lanes in the Car Park

It was left to Ian to knock up a guiding frame and to obtain paint from Decorators Warehouse and the yellow paint from Karina. Work to be carried out by the end of October

Advertising board is now in situ

Hall work has been done and looks very good. Rubber feet for the chairs have been fitted by Ian Sheila and Rhys

Audited accounts have been received back from Andrew Phillips

Urn in small kitchen. It was agreed that Rhys obtain quotes for a replacement and report back at the next meeting

Dishwater - Rhys to obtain quotes and report back

Quiz - 18th November. Due to a clash of dates with the bowls club event it was decided to cancel this date and look for another date early in the New Year. Rhys to come back with dates for the next meeting.

Jumble Sale - The committee decided not to pursue this event

TREASURERS'S REPORT

Income/Expenditure

july Income £2215.00 Expenditure £5782.25

August Income £8329.00 Expenditure £6668.59

Major expenditure for July

Insurance £1316.62

Outside panting £1270.00

Stage Curtains deposit £1000.00

Major expenditure August

Main Hall floor £3334.80

Electrical check £ 635.00

Chair protectors £ 320.40

Bank Balance as at 31st August 2016£16,557.79

Grants

WDC Grant received £4011.00

HPC Grant £3000.00 to come

Banking

I have decided against Barclays Bank's offer of a machine as they take a transaction fee of 1% on debits and credits so if we took deposits and then refunded them there would be a cost to us

Insuance

The valuation received at a renewal value of £1,461.000 Cover was increased to this sum and the additional premium was £147.60. The sum is index-linked and the insurers have guaranteed that even if the re-building cost goes up in the next three years as we have agreed to stay with them for this period they will cover any increase. We will not therefore need another re-valuation until the end of this period

Electricity account

We have now been registered as a 5% VAT payer instead of 20%. This also has the advantage of reducing the Climate change level to Nil! Scottish Power have

recalculated our bills for the last two years and this has resulted in a credit of just over £250 this amount has wiped out our underpayment for the last year

Performing Rights Society

They have decided we needed to be registered in a different way under a different heading. I had paid them the fee on our estimated income under the old heading but they then denied receiving the money even though I was able to show them the cleared cheque details on the bank statement. I have had a robust discussion with one of their representatives and then agreed to get the cleared cheque from the bank. When this arrived I sent it to them and wrote a strong letter of complaint to the CEO. I have received a grovelling telephone call from the CEO and similar letter dated 24th August stating how wrong they were and that we would receive the new document and account. They agreed that we did not have to pay the additional fee based on the correct figures. No documentation has yet to be received.

CARETAKERS REPORT

Bookings

2016 - the value of bookings at the end of August 2016 was £38,800. This is an increase of £1040.00 over the last two meetings

2017 - All regular users have been booked for 2017 and the value of bookings stands at £33270. This figure has dropped due to the Baby Sensory leaving us but we remain £3086 up on the same time last year

Electricity - usage over the last 8 week period was £271.90

Maintenance

Pump - no problem

Heaters are in hand

Actions

Urn in small kitchen has been disposed of by Bryan Naish

Main hall floor has been completed

Called in pest control to dispose of wasp nest in the bank within the children's play area

Waste Disposal - normal collection

Letters/emails

Harmer family annual meeting on Saturday 10th September was cancelled on 23rd August due to lack of support. This was fully paid, refund at committee discretion. I was not able to re-hire to anyone.

FEASIBILITY 5 METRE BUFFER FOR USE AS A PLAY AREA

If the committee were able to use this ground it would be such a benefit to the children. It was agreed that Ian contacts John Ford, the owner of this piece of land, asking whether the village hall could buy this land or alternatively we the village hall could lease this land.

ACCESS ROAD/LEASE

The committee were told that this matter would be an agenda item at the Parish Council on 19th September and the outcome would be reported back to the meeting. Matter to be put on next month's agenda meeting

CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION

Ian and Sheila had received an email from Mary McBerney giving them an update on this matter. A third trustee is being sought and it was suggested that Jo Angear be contacted regarding this matter. Ian and Bryan signed the Trustee's declaration. Ian said he would get in touch with Mary to pursue the matter further and report back at the next committee meeting.

MAINTENANCE OF THE VILLAGE HALL

It was agreed that the decoration of the Village Hall was looking tired and in need of work. Although various committee members have endeavoured to do the decorating it was agreed that the whole work should be carried out by a professional decorator. With regard to the small kitchen it was left to Karen to obtain two quotes for replacing various units to make the kitchen more presentable. Sheila was asked to contact Wealden District Council Small Grants Department to see if decorations could be included in a grant application and report back

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Sponsor

Sheila reported that Geo. Collins were prepared to sponsor the plants for the planter to the tune of £100 although they would also like photographic evidence Suggestion

was that the press be invited to cover this event thus obtaining photographic evidence this way.

Notice Board - Rhys was asked to get in touch with a locksmith to obtain another set of keys so that the notice board could be utilised.

Parish Website It was learnt that the work has been completed thus making the village hall information separate from the parish council information

HATS

Chris Thompson wearing his "HATS" hat informed the committee that he had been in touch with Ray & Shelden and the Free Church who were agreeable to moving to different halls within the village hall to allow HATS the flexibility of carrying out more theatrical activities

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next committee meeting will be on Monday 10th October 2016 at 6.45 pm sharp.

Ian and Karina will be unable to attend this meeting. Noted