

MINUTES OF THE VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY 21st SEPTEMBER 2020

PRESENT Chris Thompson (Chairman) Ian Stewart (Hon. Treasurer) Sheila Charlton (Secretary) Jo Angear Joyce Burt Bryan Naish Sue Wicks (Extend) and Lisa Taplin (Dance Mavericks)

APOLOGIES

Karena Mayhew and Liz Ford

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 6TH JULY 2020

The Minutes having been circulated were signed by the Chairman as a true record of that meeting

MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

Fence behind bus shelter - Mick Goodsell has come back with a quote of £400 and this job will be carried out by him soon

James the handyman. Paving slabs at the sign on the road front and noticeboard. The treasurer has reminded him that these jobs have still not been completed.

TREASURER'S REPORTS

To keep a record of our treasurer's reports, which having been previously circulated to members, are included in these minutes

July 2020

There has been some income and a few enquires which have been deal with that will be in use in August so may be a slight increase.

Expenditure is good. The main expenditure has been the annual insurance policy. By way of example of benefit of Government grant we ended in March with £20467.62 in the bank and at the end of July £27392.44

We have all we need to set up for use from a Covid point of view including all equipment and signage. I also have prepared and sent Standard Conditions to regular users and issue these as well to new users.

The electricity contract ends on 31st August 2020. I have been in contact with three separate companies. All have reported and all are slightly different. Prices have gone up slightly. I have chosen the cheapest and signed up for two years to get fixed prices. Usually I would consult the committee but this has not really been possible this time. I have made it clear that our usage is way down on previous years. One company who used the last year's usage then tried to put stipulation in that if usage was + or - 20% then they could charge more!

Anyway most regular users such as Luncheon Club, Extend and Ray and Sheldon and possibly Viewcraft will not be back before 2021. I am having a few new enquiries and so there will be some new users.

August 2020

August income was £824.00 and expenditure was £1112.39.

The expenditure was slightly higher than expected as I paid Scottish Power £401.74 which was two months to cover the end of the contract. They in fact will have to refund to us about £95 as I slightly overpaid at the end of August. Changing suppliers is not as easy as they say that if the bill on the last day is not paid immediately they refuse to transfer until it is paid!

The other main expense was just over £260.00 for the wood etc and lighting for the new cupboard in the main hall for the under 5's use. This just needs a coat of paint and it is finished. We will need to do a letter of thanks to Bob Macey who "helped" me - actually he did all the work as he knew what he was doing! I will let Sheila have his address in due course.

Some users are re-starting such as the Dance Mavericks and Swing Dancers. Pre-school and others will be starting shortly.

All have been given the detailed Covid-19 advice and all sanitising is in place. I have used the cleaner to do a full sanitise each day the hall was being used and a deep clean on Sunday. This will now be a daily clean and deep clean on Sunday.

All relevant signage is in place including wearing of face masks. It is somewhat difficult for some users as other parts of Government advice states they do not have to wear masks if their activity makes it a problem

We have had some users coming in from Hailsham, such as Slimming World because their usual halls and venues are not yet open. I am aware that some halls have decided not to open until the New Year. These are mostly short term but we have received very grateful thanks for making the hall available

I am applying to Parish Council for rent to be voided for September and December due to the reduction in income. After allowing for grants our income is about £1300+ down on this time last year! At the beginning of the pandemic we had £20707.76 in the bank. We received the Government grant of £10000 and now have £27104.05 in the bank so we are surviving

VIRUS UPDATE

The question was asked as to how many people are allowed to use the hall at one time. There is a formula which has been applied the result of which is that between 45/50 people are able to use the hall at one time. Also the availability of an isolation room facility, for which the lounge would be used.

Although the hall does not have a "signing in" book, it was felt that if some one was taken ill

with the virus the respective user would have a list of their attendees to whom should be contacted.

WI MEMORIAL PLOT

The Chairman had received an email from the WI asking whether we would consider a memorial plot for past WI members. In principle it was agreed by the committee but felt that a site meeting should be held. It was left that the Secretary write to the WI Chairman informing her that we were agreeable in principle but that a site meeting should be held.

HALL CHARGES - for discussion

The committee felt that this was not the right time to review the hall charges. It was agreed that this matter be put on the agenda for January 2021's meeting.

It was agreed by the committee that the charge of £5.00 per hour should continue until the end of the year.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

A letter of thanks be sent by the Secretary to Bob Macey thanking him for building a cupboard for use by the Tiddlers and Toddlers.

It was learnt that the surgery would be holding their Flu Sessions on the mornings of 26th September, 3rd 10th and 17th October at the village hall.

The committee expressed their thanks to Ian for all his efforts in maintaining the smooth running of the village hall.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be on Monday 9th November 2020 at 6.00 pm