

**MINUTES OF THE HERSTMONCEUX VILLAGE HALL  
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE HELD  
ON MONDAY 22ND MARCH 2021 VIA ZOOM**

**PRESENT** Chris Thompson Sheila Charlton Ian Stewart Jo Anger Sue Wicks Karena Mayhew

**APOLOGIES** Liz Ford Nic Porter and Lisa Taplin

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 21ST SEPTEMBER 2020**

The Minutes having been circulated were accepted by those present as a true record of that meeting

**MATTERS ARISING**

The treasurer has had a word with Mick Goodsell regarding the job quoted by him for the fence behind the bus shelter. Unfortunately due to Mick being ill of late the job was forgotten. However Mick Goodall has promised to get the job done pronto!

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

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

**September and October 2020**

September income	£508.95	Expenditure	£1205.02
October income	£1317.00	Expenditure	£1363.91

As can be seen our income was balancing out now that users were returning. However the lockdown will reverse this balancing. We have now used just over one half of the Government grant of £10,000. I have applied to Wealden District Council for another grant. The application was made several weeks ago but as things have changed materially in the last few days I have emailed them to advise that as the Pre-school can remain open our heating, cleaning and water and sewerage bills will far exceed the income. I hope this will persuade them to help us

**Charity Commission**

I have received the audited account and submitted our Annual Return to the Charity Commission within the time limit. We are therefore up to date on this issue. I will reward the auditor with wine as he does it for free

**General**

Neither the fence behind the bus shelter nor the noticeboard works have been carried out. I have reminded the contractors. I do wonder whether the noticeboard is really necessary.

The electricity contract has been renewed albeit not without issues! Am power's website does not allow you to enter the day and night rate so I have to email them the figures. Also despite being told, as a charity, we only pay 5% VAT they charged 20%. They have agreed to amend and refund the excess charge. I have my eyes on them!

Covid – as stated above the only users can be the Pre-school. I will be advising all other users in the next few days.

Rent Parish Council have agreed to forgo rent for September and December payments

WI Memorial Plot – The WI have planted three trees on the area of grass on right hand side as you enter hall car park,.

Remembrance Sunday I will need to see if the vicar intends to have a 2 minute silence on 11<sup>th</sup> November at the hall.

Fire Alarm service done. I will need to change the batteries in the emergency exit signs. Cost in the region of £100.

## **November 2020**

Income £1460.29 This was due mainly to Pre-school, Dr's surgery for flu jabs and the dance groups. The income will drop dramatically in December 2020 and January 2021.

Expenditure £1913.70. The main expenses were -  
£475.88 for the replacement of two heaters that were not working and the repair of the outside lights  
£450.00 for the gardening which basically was the last trim of banks and the hedge cutting.  
£138.00 for ink for the printer and £118.60 for the replacement batteries for the emergency exit signs and £180.00 to Wealden District Council for the premises licence.

The electricity bills are rising rapidly due to heating now being switched on so will get worse in the next few months.

hasinn the bank. When we started the year we had £19168.81 so it means that we are still spending the Government grant of £ had so we have a little way to go before we have spent the lot. Application has been applied to Wealden District Council for a further grant but as yet have not heard any response.

I have moved the hall sign from the roadside into the hall. I think that we abandon re-instating it but will decide this later.

If I have not said so already the Annual Report has been submitted to the Charity Commission with audited accounts we are up to date there.

For the months of December January and February there has been very little to say other than the following - replaced hot tap in kitchen: ladies loo: rectify tap leak in small kitchen. Although we have had various surveys carried out in the past we have not had a water survey done which will be carried in the next month

## **THE NEXT FEW MONTHS – DISCUSSION ON COVID – HOW WE MOVE FORWARD**

Ian stated that he has had various enquiries from past users wanting to start up again in April/May and an enquiry for a wedding in November. There is hopefully going to be a village party on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2021. The committee were informed that the Parish Council are asking people to let them know of future events so that there is no overlap in doubling up on dates for the rest of the year. The grant from Wealden District Council will be forthcoming on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021 When users do return guidelines will be given to them in relation to keeping the hall sanitised.

## **HALL CHARGES**

Although the 2019 hire charges had been circulated to members before the meeting it was decided that no decision be made on an increase in charges until later in the year. It was agreed that this matter be put on the September agenda for discussion then and for the new charges to come into effect on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2022.

## **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Shutters to be discussed as a priority – we have received a quote – and it was felt that this job should be carried out in the very near future. NB Agenda item for May

Computer needs updating contact web master.  
Trustees update details

Lisa cleaner - although The amount we pay her does not warrant her being liable for income tax or national insurance. We have sought advice from Simon Goacher past finance officer of the council that she should buy her self employed national insurance because if not this could affect her old age pension,

We need to look for a replacement for Rhys.

The committee expressed their thanks to Ian for keeping the village hall ticking over during these difficult times

## **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2021 at 6.00 pm.