

TURVILLE NORTHEEND VILLAGE HALL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee of Management held at the Village Hall on Tuesday 5th October 2021

Present

Trustees: David Cairns, David Faragher, Susie Phillips.

Other volunteers: Clare Barrows, Susan Faragher.

Other residents: Pamela Jones, Danny Fois, Angela Fois, Mark Morton, Matthew Dawson, Peter Langford, Glynis Langford and Gina Brown.

1. Apologies

Jenny Neagle (JN), Sarah Evans and Carolyn Wyndham.

2. Election of Chairman

David Cairns was elected as Chairman.

3. Minutes of AGM held on 6th March 2021

The minutes were approved.

4. Appointment of New Treasurer

A meeting is to be arranged between Mathew Dawson (MD) and JN in order to discuss the detailed requirements of the role with a view to MD taking on the role.

5. Financial Report

The interim 6 month Income & Expenditure report for 2021/22 (made up to 30th September and prepared by JN) was circulated.

It showed Income of £3,331, Expenditure of £546 and Total Funds Carried Forward of £35,150.

6. Repairs to Northend Common

The Chairman briefly outlined the works carried out by local residents last summer to the edges of the Common. He reported that the contribution from the parish council (£350) and an anonymous donor (£500) had now been fully spent. The Village Hall had contributed £350, of which £143 had already been spent and £207 remained available to be spent in 2021 or later.

7. Maintenance: Current and Future

DC reported that there are serious issues with the roof which require attention. An inspection of the roof was carried out in March by Attley's, (a firm of roofers

recommended by Andy Nichols - a local resident and architect) and a detailed report was produced which identified damp on the flat roof over the toilets in the 1990s extension (as there is no ventilation) and leaks through the bell tower which does not have a damp course, as well as other issues. Repairs are to be carried out by Attley's in the near future and as part of the works they will also be carrying out further investigations of certain matters.

It will also be necessary to carry out some electrical works. The hall passed its 5 yearly electrical inspection but the inspection report contained some recommendations which the hall's insurers have stipulated should be carried out before the next renewal. The Chairman reported that he had also spoken to Kier Harman about using greener electricity for the Hall. He is a resident of Turville Valley who has specific knowledge of the subject. It may be that some options, such as solar power, may not be cost effective.

The floor of the main hall, which has a veneer that is about 60 years old, will also require attention.

8. Bookings and Lettings

SF, (Joint Booking Manager), reported that bookings resumed in May with the Unitary Council elections on 6th and a Turville Parish Council Meeting on 12th.

The hall was allowed to re-open more widely on 17th May, subject to conditions and table tennis resumed on 20th May, subject to restricted numbers. There were 2 bookings for parties at the end of May, which were to be held outside, one which had to be cancelled because of the bad weather and a "baby shower" which went ahead.

The hall was allowed to fully reopen on the 19th July and the Nursery hired the hall, from Friday 23rd July until Friday 27th August, although it had to be closed for part of that time owing to a Covid infection.

A new activity, Hearing Dog puppy training, started on 3rd September. A block booking of 6 Friday mornings was made and it is hoped that this will develop into a regular activity. There was also a Turville parish council meeting on 8th September and a booking from Threshold Sports (on behalf of the BRFA) on 15th September to use the hall as a water/pit stop for a running event.

The annual Rounders match was held in front of the hall last Sunday (3rd October).

Unfortunately, the Pilates and yoga classes have not resumed post lockdown, so currently the only regular bookings are the table tennis club on Thursday evenings and (hopefully) the Hearing Dog puppy training on Friday mornings.

Going forward, it is hoped to hold the second Northern Lights pop-up wine bar on Friday 12th November and there is a 70th birthday party booked for a Saturday towards the end of that month.

December promises to be a bit busier with provisional bookings for 2 Christmas workshops, the Village Hall drinks on Sunday 12th, the Turville Nursery Christmas Party on 15th and another birthday party booked for the following weekend.

An ad hoc arrangement has been put in place with Kim Avou to clean the hall as required from time to time (3 times over the summer). The weeds were also strimmed before the Nursery came. The weeds at the front of the hall partly cleared before the rounders match and weedkiller sprayed on the gravelled area at the front of the hall (without much success so far).

T&Cs

The baby shower event in May generated quite a lot of rubbish that wasn't put into the correct bins, which had to be sorted, so the booking conditions have been amended to require hirers to remove all their rubbish after an event. In the future, if any hirer wishes to leave rubbish it will have to be agreed in advance.

9. Marketing

CB reported that :

- The hall's details had been placed on 4 free external search engines and she would like to know how future hirers found out about the hall.
- Details and photographs of the hall had also been registered on 2 film location websites.
- The brochure that she produced and distributed to ramblers groups has not yet produced any results. Occasional reminders have been sent out.
- She had been speaking to Pippa Wels about obtaining a TENS licence for the Northend Lights pop-up wine bar in November.

CB also outlined workshops that are currently under development; Christmas decoration making demonstration, a wreath-making workshop (both with Babylon Designs based just outside Watlington) and furniture up-cycling in January or February. Various pricing options, the provision of refreshments and a contribution from the Village Hall to the printing of fliers were discussed.

10. Community Events

It is intended to hold the Christmas drinks event for local residents on Sunday 12th December which may be followed by a short “Wild Church” service on the Common in front of the hall led by the Associate Priest of the Hambleden Valley Group of Churches, the Reverend Sue Morton, at which some carols will be sung.

11. Recruitment of Trustees and Volunteers

Both Matthew Dawson and Mark Morton agreed to assist with Village Hall matters. Other volunteers are still required

12. Revision of the Constitution

The Constitution still requires updating and this will be carried out once the post Covid pandemic future of the hall has been established.

13. Date of next Meeting

It was decided to hold the next meeting in March 2022, but the exact date is to be decided nearer the time.