

TURVILLE NORTHEEND VILLAGE HALL

Minutes of Meeting of the Committee of Management 16th March 2019

Present

Trustees: Michael Wicks, David Cairns, David Faragher, Ray Jones, Sarah Evans.

Other Committee Members: Carolyn Wyndham

1. Apologies

Susie Phillips, Rob Oldershaw, Sophie Chiappe, Cayla Twemlow.

2. Minutes of Committee Meeting held on 20th October 2018

Approved by Chairman Mike Wicks (MW).

3. Matters Arising

Northend Common Repairs

As confirmed at the last meeting, a local donation of £500 had been received to help with the restoration of the edges of the common. The original intention was to obtain quotes in order for repair work to be started before the winter weather damaged the edges further. However, it was subsequently suggested to the Committee that the work should be carried out in the spring. MW pointed out that there was now damage on both sides of the common and there would not be enough to pay for repairs to both sides. It was decided to obtain quotes for remedying the damage in front of the Village Hall.

4. Financial Report

In Rob Oldershaw's (RO's) absence David Cairns (DC) presented the accounts for the period from 1st April 2018 to 31st March 2019. The accounts are healthy, even though there was expenditure of £4,868.62 in the year, there was an income of £6,293.94, giving a surplus of £1,425.32 (which is better than last year's deficit of £2,434.47 caused mainly by the cost of replacing windows). Since the preparation of the accounts circulated at the meeting, the surplus has fallen to £901 as £474 had been paid out for new kitchen flooring (bringing the total

expenditure on additions/improvements to £2,705) and (following a period of credit) a bill for £50 had also been received from Castle Water (which took over business supplies from Thames Water). However, there may be some further income before 31st March. DC had also checked the electricity meter and confirmed a credit of 700 – 800 units.

5. Bookings and Lettings.

In Susie Phillips's (SO's) absence, MW reported that the hall still has regular bookings 4 evenings a week and had 18 other bookings during the year (the same number as last year and in line with the 3 previous years). However, the Ladies group that use the hall on Wednesday evenings were not happy about being asked to find alternative arrangements during the summer period when the hall is used by the nursery, so they may look for another venue. SP is in discussion with them.

6. Maintenance; Current and Future

MW reported that the kitchen had been refitted thanks to the generosity of the new owners of Swains, Dave and Anna Simpson, who were in the planning process for demolishing their house and rebuilding it. They had arranged for their old kitchen to be fitted in the village hall by their builders and had also provided a cooker and a fridge freezer. The installation work took a week and the tiling a further two days. New kitchen flooring, lighting and a blind had also been installed out of village hall funds. A thank you card, flowers and a bottle of wine has been sent to the generous donors.

The hedges had also been cut, the hall walls had been touched up, as well as the damp in the corner of the ceiling of the committee room. A draft excluder had also been fitted to the outer door by the toilets.

The problems with the electricity supply had been investigated by the electricity company and a contractor on behalf of the village hall. The problems emanated from a damp fuse box and faulty earthing. The electricity supplier denied any responsibility for the initial installation works so an estimate for the works (of £170) has been obtained from electricians (DJB) and approval was given for these works to be carried out.

Condensation continues to be a problem with the large end window in the main hall and the small diamond shaped window in the entrance, in spite of the plastic coating that has been affixed. SP has obtained quotes for the installation of secondary glazing but they are rather expensive

(£500 + VAT for the small window and over £2000 plus some additional costs for the large window). The possibility of reverting to using a dehumidifier was discussed, but it was agreed that quotes for the replacement of the windows should be obtained.

7. Marketing

It was reported by MW that more advertising leaflets had been produced at no cost to the village hall and the advertisement in the Hambleden magazine has been improved. An advertisement had also been placed in the Henley Standard. Various potential marketing ideas were discussed and it was agreed that the new kitchen facilities should be publicised to local residents and via the Hambleden magazine.

8. Community Events

The Community Lunch in Lent will be held in the village hall on Saturday 23rd March 2019. Attendees can drop in any time between 12.00 and 2.00pm. Donations have been requested for Marlow Refugee Action and Brain Tumour Research.

MW suggested that a drinks and canapés event should be organised on a Saturday or Sunday in summer to thank the new owners of Swains for their generosity in relation to the kitchen refurbishment, to which local residents who had associations with the village hall should also be invited. SP is to be asked to contact the owners to obtain their views and if necessary to find an appropriate date.

9. Management Committee Vacancies

It was noted that RO still wishes to step down as treasurer after 20 years. CW had spoken to Victoria Wingfield Digby (VWD) who had expressed a willingness to take on the role. CW was asked to liaise with VWD and MW with a view to setting up a meeting with RO in order to discuss the role.

RO also administers the village hall web site and he is to be asked if he is intending to give up this role as well.

10. Any Other Business

Northend Village Pond.

CW raised the question of the Northend Village Pond which requires remedial and improvement works. Ray Jones (RJ) confirmed that Turville

Parish Council had earmarked £2000 of CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy) funds to go towards works to the pond but they would require a clear plan of how the money would be spent and would require the works to be organised and overseen by Northend residents. CW mentioned that a company called Aquatic Solutions had in the past proposed 3 potential schemes (with costings). Any works would require additional funds to be raised and would also require the consent of the owner of the common, Charles Hoare-Nairne.

There was discussion whether the Village Hall Management Committee could become involved with the works or contribute to the costs and there was a query raised whether this would be within the terms of its constitution.

CW was requested to liaise with Dan Wels in order to see how things could be taken forward.

11.Date of next Meeting

Provisionally fixed for Saturday 5th October 2019 at 10.30 am.