

MINUTES

The Village Hall, Northend Committee Meeting

7 February 2009 10.45am

Present

David Cairns (Chair), Rob Oldershaw (Treasurer), Michael Wicks (Turville Parish Council), James McConville, Colin Malcolmson, Cayla Twemlow, Graham Twemlow, Steve Blake, Guy Prince, Ashlyn Squizzoni, Stephen Bucknill (Stand-in Secretary).

1. Apologies

Andy Nicholls, Wendy Duerden, Amanda Bucknill, Amanda Moser

2. The resignation of Helena Djurkovic as chairperson and trustee was noted

3. David Cairns was elected as new chairman

4. Minutes of the last meeting on 4 October 2008

Approved

5. Matters Arising not covered elsewhere in the agenda

None

6. Financial Report:

(a) Income and expenses

Rob Oldershaw reported interim finances for year ending 31 March 2009. There were no unexpected items. The main income was still from the village nursery. The main outgoing was insurance which had increased slightly. Improvements to and maintenance of the hall were up slightly due to external decorations

The Nursery had booked the Hall for August 2009.

There would be a reduced return on the £15,000 deposited with CAF because of falling interest rates ; however the deposit was safe with the UK charity based bank and no funds were held with any Icelandic banks

Electricity costs would be higher as a bill was due before 31 March but prices were now starting to fall again. It was noted that the outside light was often left on and Rob Oldershaw would produce a simple set of instructions to deal with the switches for lights and heating.

(b) Insurance

The insurance had just been renewed at a small increase in premium.

The Accounts were approved.

7. Boundaries

James McConville provided a detailed summary of the present position and was satisfied with the research Andy Nicholls and he had conducted. He confirmed that cesspit was no longer used by the Hall. The Committee would have to continue to deal with the issue.

8. Internal Maintenance

(a) Windows

Cayla reported that several window frames were badly decayed. Quotes had been obtained but were very high so other quotes were being obtained

(b) Painting

The hallway had been painted as had the archwork

(c) Other maintenance

Repairs had been made to the roof including lead work as a result of damage caused by falling branch. This had been covered by insurance.

Rob Oldershaw agreed to deal with the leak in the cistern in the gents.

Cayla received a vote of thanks for all the work she had done over the years.

(d) Day to day Upkeep

There was a need to find someone to deal with day to day upkeep issues rather than the bigger maintenance and decorating issues. It was agreed to approach Mary Laurie to see if she would be prepared to take on this role.

9. External Maintenance and Capital Expenditure

(a) Tree

It was agreed that the tree needed to come down. There would be no objection from Wycombe District Council. David and Rob agreed to pursue this.

(b) Sign

It was confirmed that the text of sign had been agreed at the previous meeting. Andy Nicholls will produce it

(c) Side Garden

James reported that the side garden had been treated with Round Up. It had been agreed to put down a heavy membrane followed by small chippings. Steve Blake would get a quote from Andy Scotts to do the work and consult with Andy Nicholls on quantities. Preferably the work should be done before the summer.

(d) Rear Wall

James McConville had consulted with John Hawes on the specification for the rear wall. It was unanimously agreed to proceed with the brick wall option (as opposed to brick pillars with wooden bars and palings) at a height of 1.1 metres which, according to Andy Nicholls, was the statutory minimum height required for a boundary wall feature to prevent young children from going over. A quote had already been obtained for £4,500 incl. VAT.

It was agreed that a minimum of 3 quotes should be obtained

David Cairns would inform the neighbouring landowners.

10. Bookings

Ashlyn reported there had been the regular bookings comprising table tennis/pilates/drama group. There had been 6 children's parties, 2 bookings from Anna Eykin, the Turville Park Cricket Club AGM and Quiz Night, there had also been various charity events – Riders for the Disabled and Judy & Jo's table top sale for Ethiopia. Hirers of tables and chairs had given donations

Coming up was Peter Allen jazz night on 27 March, some children's parties and Judy's Lent Lunch.

Overall it was fairly active

Ashlyn was thanked for her efforts with the bookings

11. Marketing

Marketing was being done through the Website, the Parish Magazine and the Turville Times newsletter

James McConville agreed to write an article for the parish magazine and the Watlington Times

Steve Blake would circulate brochures in the nursery school and pub in Turville

12. Fundraising Events

Steve Blake had already registered the Hall with various film companies

It was agreed to open the Hall up for teenage parties provided they were from within the parish and supervised by parents who are parish residents.

Revenue should be raised to replace reserves spent on the wall. Mike Wicks suggested that Amanda Moser may be persuaded to organize another quiz evening and Gary Steventon could be asked to organize another race night

It was agreed to pursue these fund raising options for April/spring time.

13. Possible updating of Constitution

It was agreed that David Cairns would conduct a review of the Constitution

14. Any other Business

None

15. Date of Next Meeting

AGM on 3 October 2009

The meeting was closed at 12.40pm with vote of thanks to the Chair.