

North Wootton Village Hall Committee Meeting

Minutes

Location: North Wootton Village Hall

Date: Thursday 13th February 2020 Time: 19:00

Attendees: Dennis Blackmore-Chair, Neil Pearce-Secretary, Wendy Border-Finance/Bookings, Antony Lamb-Events, Sarah Simmonds, Will Border, Colin Smith, Kier Hughes, Barry Watkins, Doreen Taylor, Bob Angell, John Marshall-Grint, Jason Harper.

1. Apologies- Bridget, Donna.

The Committee gave a warm welcome to new member Jason Harper.

2. Approval of minutes from previous meeting held on Thursday 19th December.

3. Shingle has been delivered. Thanks conveyed to Nurse Builders and for Antony for spreading.

New electric box is being fitted on the 18th February and will be a two day job to fully fit.

New contract with alternative energy supplier has been completed and is with Scottish Power.

Updates from Sub-Committees.

4. Finance

Wendy handed out the latest accounts sheets for the Committee to read. The previous Village Market and a few other events takings have still to be banked. Antony has been given some funds from our account to help organise the VE Day celebration event in May.

We have received £59.00 from West Norfolk Wins, which is up on last month.

Will remarked that we are in credit with our water bill with significant savings having been made from the previous year.

5. Maintenance

Bob stated that a new postbox has been fitted to the side of the hall. Wendy will inform the Royal Mail so that we can have correspondence sent to the village hall.

Wendy informed the maintenance team that there is a leak in the guttering by the side of the door, Bob to investigate and repair.

No other major maintenance issues at present.

6. Bookings

Wendy reported that bookings are going well with Sundays proving popular for various gatherings.

We now have a Burlesque dance group regularly booked and also another possible regular for a choir group. An enquiry has been made by the local vicar to use the hall on Tuesday afternoons but Wendy is waiting for confirmation of this.

Dennis informed the committee that we have received a complaint about noise after a recent 18th Birthday party. The organiser has been informed and has apologised. Dennis raised the question as to whether we need to look into limiting the age demographic of these types of parties? It was agreed that such teenage parties need to have security or adequate adult supervision to go ahead in the future. We will monitor any such events in the future to try to avoid it happening again.

Wendy has kindly written an information sheet for hirers to refer to on various matters such as how to operate the heating system.

7. Events.

Antony reminded the committee we have a village market this coming Saturday (15th February) and as we have nobody using the hall this Friday everyone agreed to stay behind after the meeting to set up tables and chairs and put up the bunting. Antony said there was a wide variety of stalls and that due to possible inclement weather the butcher would be inside the hall at the event rather than his usual spot outside.

The Indian Night is on the Saturday 29th February and there is another one provisionally booked for July with the date TBC.

8 stalls have already booked for the Spring Fair with more expected to book soon.

Antony is busy organising the VE Celebration day which will be on the Bank Holiday Friday 8th May. Antony has also put in for a grant to help with the funding for this. He is hoping the Mayor will attend and everyone is invited to wear 1940's costume for the day. He is also looking into whether any owners of vintage 1940's vehicles can attend so do not be surprised if we have a full scale Sherman tank out the front on the day!

Antony has purchased flyers for the event and there will be free food and drink for all. An air raid siren (owned by Antony) will sound at 15:00 so do not be alarmed as thankfully there are no German bombers coming! Despite the machinations of Brexit we are still all friends now.

Antony is looking into organising more quiz nights which proved very popular previously.

Dennis enquired as to whether we are planning to do any Flea Markets? Antony to look into.

AOB.

Wendy informed the committee that 30 new blue chairs had been delivered but remarked that some arrived damaged. It has been agreed with the company that sent them that we will be getting money back for 3 of these and money off 6 others.

Bob suggested we shingle around the side either side of the ramp at the side entrance sufficiently deep enough so the ramp itself will not be a trip hazard.

2 solar lights have been fitted either side of the ramp for safety and security.

Bob also remarked that he noticed that the hall lights had been left on and that the toilet lights and side door unlocked when he checked. Hirers will be reminded of their obligations to turn off lights and lock up securely.

It has been proposed that we have a porch over the front entrance. Several members were unsure if this would impact on the integrity of the building. It was agreed if this was to be feasible and a future project that any proposal would have to be in keeping with the period nature of the existing building.

Dennis informed the committee that Nurse Builders have quoted £1,500 to construct a new pathway around the hall. Further update to follow.

Antony remarked that we urgently need to convert the rear of the hall to create extra storage space. All agreed this is a priority. Quotes to be obtained and the committee will make a list of requirements.

Will said we are still waiting for a decision from the Highways Dept regarding the path. Update to follow.

The Chairman asked if anyone who cannot attend the meetings if they could contact the Secretary with apologies please.

Date of the next meeting:

Thursday 12th March at 7pm.

Meeting concluded 20:10.