

North Wootton Village Hall Management Committee

Meeting Thursday 13th January 2022- 7pm

Apologies: Sarah, Doreen, Antony, Colin.

Attendees: Dennis Blackmore (Chairman) Neil Pearce (Secretary) Wendy Border (Treasurer) Bob Angell (Maintenance), Bridget Nurse , Jason Harper, Will Border, Kerry Taylor-Graystone, John Marshall-Grint.

1 Approval of minutes by Chairman of the previous meeting held on the 29/11/21.

2 Matters Arising

None.

3 Updates from Sub-Committees.

Finance

Wendy handed out copies of the latest financial figures. She explained our accounts are looking very healthy with a balance of £35,706 at the years end in December.

Apart from an increase in bookings and money from regular hirers we are also receiving income streams from things such as the West Norfolk Wins lottery and from people who have donated when purchasing from Amazon. These are all gratefully received and all help to bolster funds.

We end the year of 2021 in fine shape and can hopefully look forward to another successful financial year in 2022.

Maintenance

Bob explained that we need to keep on top of the painting of the exterior of the building, and that also the bottoms of the walls inside are showing signs of scuffing and wear and could also do with repainting. Bob has suggested we look for a date, perhaps in the spring when the weather improves, to paint the exterior of the building.

Bob has also spoken to Wayne Skipper regarding the proposed porch and will update on progress at the next meeting. It was suggested that we may be able to apply for a CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy) grant to help fund the porch. The committee will investigate this and report back.

The De-Fib still needs to be fitted; Bob will report back with progress regarding this at the next meeting.

Events

Antony was unable to attend the meeting, but Neil read out a statement on his behalf.

The village market is going ahead this Saturday 15th January, and Antony requested volunteers to help set up on Friday.

The proposed Flea Markets on Sundays after the village markets will not be happening this month as Antony has been too unwell to organize, but hopefully will go ahead after February's market.

Plans for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations are coming along well. Antony has a beacon on order, along with a piper to play Diu Regnare before the beacon is lit on the Thursday evening. The band 'Swervy World' are confirmed to perform for the Friday and Saturday. The Village Hall will be represented at Wootton Park's Friday event with a coconut shy. The main event on the Saturday will be similar to last years VJ Day celebrations but perhaps larger in scale. We are looking into having mugs printed with North Wootton Village Hall and the Queen's Jubilee logo on them to give away as has been done in previous jubilees.

Antony is also looking into getting bags printed with the North Wootton Village Hall logo on them to sell at the markets, with a view that

purchasers will bring them back to reuse at the following market and receive a free tea/coffee.

Antony also asked if anyone has contacts regarding hiring a choir to sing during the lighting of the beacon.

Bookings

Wendy reported a steady stream of bookings and read out a full list of the bookings we have on a regular basis during an average week. This highlighted how busy and popular we have become.

Wendy also informed the committee that we have two parties this weekend, one of which will be immediately after the market on the Saturday, so we will need to be packed away in good time.

4 AOB

Will informed the committee that we will be swapping our current skip outside for a larger one as the one in use now often fills rapidly. Bob has asked if this could be screened off so as not to become an eyesore. Committee to investigate and report back at the next meeting.

Bob also suggested it was time we changed the code for the door. All agreed this would be advisable and it will be changed by the 24th of January.

Wendy informed the committee we have renewed our insurance policy with the same company.

Dennis informed the committee that after several years of relatively poor sales we will no longer be selling trees at Christmas. The consensus is that the sale of trees is oversubscribed locally, and we would struggle to compete and make a viable profit.

The pallet Christmas tree trail did not prove successful, much of it due to some of them being vandalized or moved. It was proposed that perhaps for this Christmas we could ask members of the public to purchase and decorate their own and put them outside their homes. The committee would then judge the best one and offer a prize to the winner.

It has been suggested by some on the committee that the Christmas Fair is perhaps too long of an event. A 5pm finish has meant a long day for committee members and volunteers from the general public, some of whom have had to work outside in some inclement weather. A suggestion was made that perhaps a 3pm or 4pm finish would be more reasonable. The committee will discuss nearer the time and when everyone is present to offer their opinions.

5 Date of next meeting

Thursday 17th February 2022 at 7pm.

Meeting concluded 20:15pm.