

Minutes of the Shalfleet Village Hall Committee Meeting 08.Apl.2019 at 3.00pm

Present:

Brian Mead (Chair), Michael Beavis, Chloe Sutherland, Michele Smith, Hilary Waitt, & Ian Broad.

Apologies: None, committee all present.

Welcome: Brian welcomed Ros Freeman to our meeting. Ros has very recently moved to the village and would like to help by getting involved. Ros might take over preparation of minutes once she has found her feet and come to know us all.

Minutes of the Meeting of 11.Feb.2019 had been previously circulated and were proposed by Michael and seconded by Michele & Chloe and were approved by all.

Matters Arising:

Brian had met Hamish Fletcher and apologised for the Hall Committee not keeping up their trimming of the hedge recently. Hamish was happy to continue trimming his side and was pleased to hear that Chloe would make arrangements for the top and our side of the hedge to be cut annually. Hamish would not like the hedge to be more than 6" lower than it is at present. (current height is 8 feet)

Booking Secretary's report:

Michele has been approached by council to keep the Hall available for the potential European Elections. There is a provisional booking for a wedding on the weekend of 30th & 31st August & 1st September (the week after the Fete). Also a provisional booking for a party on Saturday 7th September.

There is a new regular hirer (Jenny Simmons of Calbourne Classics) just recently started. Her group are using the Hall on Monday evenings from 6.30 to 7.30pm, and Thursday mornings from 8.30 to 9.30am.

Michele would also like to be able to update the availability calendar on our website. This calendar is currently prepared by Michael and is within Michael's personal gmail account and shows all confirmed bookings from hirers who have sent their Booking Form and payment to him. Michael & Michele will meet at another time to work out what is required and possible, so that a solution is achieved.

Treasurer's report:

Michael presented accounts for the year to 8th April and for the period since last meeting (11th Feb to 8th Apl). These show an income of £1496.00 for the year to date (including the new hirers on Thursday evenings, Serenity Sounds, who have a meditation class with bongs.). The expenditure to date amounts to £2274.43 (a deficit of £778.43 to income). The timing of 3 large bills for the insurance, Calor delivery

and new lighting in the Annexe account for this deficit. Michael is confident that the income will exceed expenditure for the rest of the year, and overturn the current deficit of £778.43. The bank balance currently stands at £6605.03.

Michael had given Sandy Capon a half price rental of the Hall (a £64 discount) as she kindly took over the running of Sally Chaucer's yoga class during Sally's 6 week holiday. Sandy was very pleased that her efforts were appreciated and her thank you card was distributed for all to see.

We have received a £12.50 refund from MoneySupermarket as a reward for when we switched from Southern Electricity to Green Network Energy at end of last year. The big reward was a lowering of price amounting to a saving of just over £100 per year. Michael reported negative news about our recent bill for the Calor tank refill. The bill came in at £799.34 where they charged a unit rate of 52p per litre. He had expected to be charged at the previously agreed rate of 33p per litre. After discussions with the sales representative, it transpires the 3 year agreement we signed in October 2017 was for a fixed term to supply the gas but was not a fixed price for the gas. This was unexpected and unwelcome, but I was assured Calor have not issued any fixed price deals for some years due to the volatility of worldwide prices. Extra care will be taken when the current deal expires to explore any alternative suppliers and deals. Nevertheless the representative understood our concerns and has reduced the price to 44.5p per litre, thus reducing our bill to £684.05, a saving of £115.29.

Maintenance & Repairs:

Michael has replaced the missing sellotape and bluetack. He has also amended the website to show the hire charges for equipment on a separate page as some potential hirers were misunderstanding the charges.

The Hall has been donated some white tablecloths from Hilary. There are now 7 large and 6 small white tablecloths all sized to fit our tables.

The Hall has also been donated some plain coloured tablecloths from Maureen Beavis. There are now 8 large and 13 small coloured tablecloths all sized to fit our tables.

All these tablecloths are available to be used by all hirers and are bagged separately and kept in the double cupboard marked "Church" & "Tablecloths".

We have now received the PAT and Electrical Inspection reports from the work done at end of last year.

Environment:

Chloe has been busy clearing the brambles and blackcurrants from the hedge with Mallard House and the orchard area.

Chloe will approach Jamie Cramp in the autumn to cut the hedge.

She will also ask Hilary and Ted Higgins if they would like to help with the graveyard hedge as it is due to be topped this year.

Extension of Car Park:

Brian had reported to the recent PCC meeting about our various proposals to extend the car park. The PCC discussed their desire to increase the car park size and had various alternative methods of achieving the extension.

Chloe reported the Hall is owned by the PCC and that the field is glebe land owned by the Diocese (but leased to the PCC).

There was some discussion over whether the PCC (as owner) or Hall (as majority user) should pay for the extension. This decision will need to be taken by the PCC.

Brian invited all committee members to voice their opinions and he will report them back to the PCC for their decision on both approval and the way forward.

The final decision rests with the PCC who will then need to seek the appropriate agreements from both the local council(if needed) and the Diocese.

All committee members were in favour of extending the carpark, but with differing opinions on the implementation.

Opinions:-

Brian was in favour of extending the car park by a useful amount of 9+cars, to take opinions and advice from others and for it not to clash with the existing carpark.

Hilary is keen for the carpark to be extended as she believes there is a strong need.

Ian believes the carpark should be extended if there is a need. Michele is happy to extend the carpark as long as it is in keeping with a village hall setting. She is against the look of a council run tarmac carpark. Chloe is happy to extend the car park but is concerned how it looks and wants to achieve a carpark that doesn't look like a carpark. Chloe also reported she had been in touch with the DAC and Diocese to seek their guidance. Michael is keen to extend the carpark to address the needs of the increasing numbers of hirers, especially those hirers who book immediately after previous hirers, and the large events of both the Hall and Church. He also believes it will reduce the dip in the field and the amount of water collected there in the old pond. He had recently visited Diana Chesterton (a PCC member) and seen the "stone chippings" that were on her vehicle areas. This would be an alternative to the existing proposal of using "Road scrapings" as currently used on the existing carpark. Both finishes would require the digging out and laying a foundation of hardcore.

Any Other Business:

In light of the imminent reopening of the New Inn, Ian suggested we might need to close the gate as they have a tiny carpark. Pub visitors will be looking for parking space due to the recent closure of the National Trust rented car park further down Mill Road. It was agreed to monitor the situation.

Michael volunteered to advertise the AGM in the "Village News" and on the noticeboards around the village. It was agreed to provide a glass of wine to the attendees. There was discussion on how to increase the numbers of villagers to attend. Chloe suggested holding the Hall AGM with the Church & Fabric Trust AGM's on April 26th as there would a good number of attendees there. This idea was not agreed upon. Ros suggested we put on a speaker to give the villagers something interesting to come to and then follow with the AGM. This idea has merit but due to the time constraints of advertising and seeking the committee's input, it has been decided to leave this idea for next year.

Michael reported that he had been contacted by our vicar Clive Todd yesterday. Clive was keen that the Hall Committee referred to the PCC all substantial matters for their consideration and approval including the proposed carpark extension. He also drew our attention to his wish for us to make the Hall available FOC for the Diocesan Chapter Meetings. They have one currently requested for 9th July. In the past the Diocese has paid for the hire of the Hall for their meetings. There was not agreement amongst the committee on whether to charge or not, so it will be referred to the PCC for their decision.

Date of Next Meeting:

No date for next committee meeting was set,

the AGM was confirmed to be Friday 3rd May at 7.00pm

The meeting closed at 4.20 pm.