

Shalfleet Village Hall -
Report from PCC
for SVHMC meeting on 6th May 2022.

Nick Vaughan from the solicitors Paris Smith advises that the current relationship between the SVHMC and the PCC is confusing. The SVH constitution claims the SVHMC is a sub-committee but then promptly gives it responsibilities and liabilities which make it separate from the PCC. Staying as we are is not an option as currently we are exposed to the risk of being personally sued.

I quote from Nick Vaughan:

“Currently, there is a Management Committee which has responsibilities and therefore liabilities and which I think go beyond possibly the original intention of them being just a sub-committee of the PCC. That is where the confusion lies. I can understand, however, why that was put in place. I understand that the make up of the Committee has included non-members of the PCC and that seems to coincide with the period when grants were applied for and the general intention was to provide the Hall for community use and not just a parish/church hall. In effect, it would seem the intention was to give members of the local community some voice in the planning and use of the Hall.

The advice in my earlier email I think remains the same. You can have a separate committee of the PCC and that can have standing orders as to how it functions but making it clear that it is the PCC that retains all liability. I do not know whether that would send out the wrong message to the community if it appears to be run by the PCC. No doubt that is something that you can discuss with the PCC and the members of the Hall Committee who are not members of the PCC.

The alternative is that the Hall Committee is constituted as a separate charity with representatives from the community and the PCC and which would take a lease of the Church Hall premises from the Diocese to enable it to operate.”

Jackie has confirmed that the PCC will not be pursuing the CIO option, but will take direct control of the Village Hall together with its liabilities. They are proposing to disband the current Shalfleet Village Hall Management Committee and then set up a PCC sub-committee, guided by standing orders. Members of the SVHMC are invited to join the PCC. This sub-committee to be comprised of at least one PCC member with the option of inviting volunteers from the community to assist in the running of the Village Hall. Jackie has the firm intention and missional purpose to use the Village Hall to serve the church and community.

Michael 2nd May. 2022