

Shalfleet Village Hall Sub Committee Minutes

Date Wednesday 22nd April 2026

Present : Michael Beavis, Hilary Waitt & Debbie Lutas

The first agenda point of our meeting was to discuss the possibility of replacing our current gas boiler with an air source heat pump. As this is a major undertaking, Nathan Milne, owner of Wight Heating Limited, was invited to share his expertise on the matter.

Nick Oulton, Henry Blacksell and Rhod Powell from the PCC were also invited to attend, only Rhod was able to be present.

Michael introduced the session as an opportunity to reduce our carbon footprint by proposing to replace our current system (14 year old Calor gas boiler) with an air source heat pump to heat the building and an immersion water tank to provide sufficient hot water.

Nathan estimated that in the current condition of the building 1kw of electric would convert to 2.5kw output, if the building was fully insulated 1kw would convert to 4kw. Therefore if it was a direct transfer as is, the Calor gas option would be cheaper.

It is recommended for an ASHP to have an overall control called a 'setback' of ten degrees, this then allows a foundation for the heating to build from, rather than starting from scratch each time as it is not as responsive as gas. An App can regulate the control panel in the same way as a gas boiler via the internet with an over ride facility available for users at the hall site. The system proposed will be able to heat the hall comfortably for all hall users, it is important to have the correct size system for the most efficient use. It is recommended to have an annual service for the pump, the cost of this is comparable to a home service for a gas boiler.

Nathan recommended a Vaillant boiler as they are a trusted name in heating and each system comes with a 7 year guarantee. Wight Heating are the Vaillant warranty contractors on the Island. In terms of breakdowns they are the same as any other appliance.

We discussed why it is necessary to have a separate hot water system, as with an ASHP it is not possible to have the heating and hot water available together at the same time. Nathan has suggested a 50 litre tank, using a 3kw immersion heater needing a 32amp supply, to be sited where the current boiler is which would be capable of providing approximately 10 washing up bowls of hot water. Once emptied it would take approximately 15-18 minutes to reheat the tank. The hot water tank immersion has an inbuilt intelligence which will stop it getting overheated. This means that if solar panels are installed they would supply free electricity to heat the hot water and all electrical needs plus a surplus to sell back to the grid. Hilary has offered to count how many bowls of water she uses for handwashing and washing up during her next few functions.

Henry asked that we discuss the option of three tower heaters as a cheaper eco friendly option. We were all concerned regarding the safety aspect of floor heaters, the insurance implications and the capacity of the fuse box to cope with the output.

Nathan was asked for his opinion as to whether he would pursue solar panels or an ASHP first, he advised that if it were his decision he would opt to fit the solar panels first, mainly because of the cost of electricity.

Nathan was thanked for his knowledge and input to the meeting and left at 10:30. Rhod followed shortly after.

The three committee members further discussed the ASHP and were united that we very much like the proposed idea but understand the need to investigate more fully the costing of solar panels and the possibility of a battery to supplement the supply, sounding out about planning permission, investigating available grants, need to upgrade draughty doors etc. DL & MB to visit the planning department at a drop in session. MB has a meeting with the Diocese on 28th April to discuss possible grants from the Church of England. MB has asked Peter Carter to revisit fixing the draughty disabled access door. MB to report back at our next meeting.

It was agreed to hire the hall on two occasions for the Slipshod Singers to rehearse at a special rate of £10 on May 4th and May 21st.

3 gazebos have been requested for a special function on Saturday, MB to organise.

Hilary remembers that the hall once owned an electric wooden floor polisher, nobody has any idea where this could now be.

MB to email the cleaners to ask them not to place the dishwasher baskets on top of the freezer, there is space for them beside the freezer to the left or inside the dishwasher.

On Sunday 24th May, Charlotte has organised a soup and roll lunch to be held in the hall after church for both the congregation and villagers from the north cluster. Unfortunately only MB from the committee is able to help that day as it is the Bank holiday weekend and DL & HW have made other arrangements.

A contact made through the Village hall event, Rachel Richards – healthy habits coach, has been in touch with MB to offer her services to raise funds through grant applications for events. MB to reply that we have nothing to ask for at this time.

At a recent PCC meeting Charlotte asked that the Church support a Tearfund Charity initiative to create toilets in countries where there is a desperate need. For £60:00 you can sponsor a toilet and receive a poster that states ‘Toilet Twinned with Malawi’. At that meeting Rhod offered money towards the cost and the hall have contributed the remaining £40:00. The poster will now be displayed in our hall toilet.

We are hoping to have the hall floor sanded and finished to a sports hall standard on Wednesday 22nd July. Date yet to be confirmed, the work will take up to ten days to allow for multiple coats and

drying time. Once the date is confirmed we will contact all hall users to inform them of the closure for this period. Hilary suggested removing the curtains before the work starts.

Current finances are strong at approximately £26,000.

Date of next meeting ~ Thursday 14th May @ 2:30pm to be held at Debbie's house as the hall is in use by the choir.

Meeting closed at 11:30 am.

Minutes approved by MB, HW & DL on 27th April 2026