

# St Margaret's Hall Management Committee Minutes of Meeting Friday. 21st February 2020. 1900

## **1. Present.**

Chris Bailward (Deputy Chair), Gareth Cherry (Treasurer), Emilie Gordon, Vicky Franklin, Maria Hawkins, Gillian Miles, Jacqueline Pyne, John Macdonald (Chair).

## **2. Apologies.**

Ann Franklin, Ollie Franklin, Hannah Williamson.

## **3. Minutes of previous meeting on 13th December 2019.**

Previously circulated, signed.

## **4. Matters arising.**

Hedges. OF has cut back the hedges to the rear of the car park.

Man Hole Covers. Now that the hedges have been cut back the process of repairing the manhole cover can go ahead. Presently a traffic cone is placed on top of the cover and there is no need for anyone to approach it. OF has sourced the spares needed and he and JM will repair the manhole. Action, OF, JM.

Changing Room Steps. Rob Bishop reconstructed the steps just before the New Year. They are now of a solid construction with the newels embedded in Met Posts allowing for less possibility of rotting and thus creating a longer life. The new parts of the stairs will be painted with wood preserver when the weather improves. Action. JM.

Route 60+. The latest Villager magazine ad produced a couple more interested parties for the Route 60+ course. We should have near the 20 people required by the Somerset Safety Department to make the course viable. JM will liaise with the North Cheriton group to set a date. JP suggested a date after the 2nd April when a talk will be given by the Somerset Safety Department to the WI. This might encourage some of those attending the talk to consider taking the course. Continuing Action. JM.

## **5. Chair Report.**

*A fairly busy couple of months to report. The changing room stairs have been rebuilt and are once again in use. With the battering from the skies above and the amount of rain we've had, while the floor has moved, it hasn't deformed for another winter. Our Hallmark certificate is due to expire later in the year, but due to staffing changes the Community Council for Somerset are unable to meet the capacity for the 2020 renewals and have extended the renewal period and deferred our inspection until next year.*

## **6. Treasurer's report.**

*St Margarets Hall continues to be in a good financial position with accumulated cash of ~£7239, and this includes a £1212 spend on the renovation of the external staircase and decking leading down from the changing rooms.*

*Myself and JM had a meeting with Audio Visual Direct. I was contacted directly as they do a lot of work in village halls/churches and offered a free survey with regard to possibilities for the hall in terms of installation of an audio system, induction hearing loop system and a visual system. However given the costs involved, £5833 for all of the above and the potential licensing issues around playing music/videos in a public area, unless there is a grant available, I don't see this as something that is worth pursuing.*

There followed a discussion about the merits of the various systems. If the Hall decided at a future date to install any of the hardware it would have to consider payment to the Performing Rights Society. The general feeling of the committee was to maintain the status quo.

### **7. Booking's report.**

*The Village Hall has been very busy with a spate of parties at the beginning of the year. The regular classes carry on unchanged with the mother and toddler's becoming a much appreciated regular feature. There has been a booking for a furniture sale on a Saturday in the Hall, which is a first.*

### **8. Sport's report.**

*To be advised.*

### **9. Maintenance.**

Nil scheduled maintenance.

### **10. AOB.**

Teenage parties. After a recent party the Hall was left in a poor state. Two broken toilet seats (paid for) and the floor in a filthy state. JM cleaned and polished the floor (overdid the shine - he's told). EG received multiple requests for parties to be held in the Hall in the aftermath of that party, the suspicion being that our reputation had got around on social media. EG, GM and JM determined that a responsible parent should be present at any party, otherwise requests would be turned down. Requests then dried up. JM asked that the committee have a discussion as to whether we ought to have a policy on teenage parties. It was felt that a. if teenage parties were to go ahead then a responsible parent should be present and b. the principle of taking a deposit should be rigidly adhered to. CB brought the discussion to an end with a dry rhetorical question, "Do we need the business?"

Weather vane. The weathervane has fallen down again in the recent high winds. Fortunately not damaged to the same extent as the time previously. It will need the two parts welded together. JP suggested we contact Ed Faithful to complete the repairs. Action. JP. JM.

### **11. Date of next committee meeting.**

The next meeting, our Annual General Meeting, will be held on the 16 May 2020 at 1000.

The meeting closed at 1935.