

St Margaret's Hall Management Committee Minutes of Meeting

Friday. 17 February 2023. 1900.

1. Present

Chris Bailward (Deputy Chair, Treasurer), Gareth Cherry, Maria Hawkins, Vicky Franklin, Emilie Gordon, Gillian Miles, John Macdonald (Chair). Jonathan Packer of Hazelcroft House has kindly volunteered to join the Committee, but was unable to attend the meeting. Meeting held at Chairman's residence.

2. Apologies Oliver Franklin, Liela Moss, Jacqueline Pyne,

3. Minutes of previous meeting on 9rd December 2022.

Previously circulated, signed.

4. Matters Arising.

Village Hall dinner. 17th March is the day for the dinner. The 17th, being Saint Patrick's day, an Irish theme is appropriate. JPy has suggested a cold starter that will be easy to make up on the day, possibly a smoked salmon, fennel and clementine salad or a variation of same. CB is providing venison for the casseroles. JM will provide a Vegetarian option. As is now tradition a taster dinner will be held at JM's to test the menu two weeks before the Dinner, 3rd March. An advert has been placed in the Villager.

Table cloths. The material has arrived and JPy is in the process of running up the table cloths.

Oil Tank cover. The oil tank cover has been replaced by Bryan Paulley. It has been sandblasted and primed ready for painting during the next mild period.

Banking. A plain paper booklet has been purchased for GM. The Hall's Financial Policy has been updated to reflect the Hall's preference for BAC's payment. VF commented that people still may prefer to pay by cheque. JM stated that there was no change in the Hall's policy in that respect. Cheques are still acceptable.

Utilisation of Hall. Since the Hall is not fully utilised, GC suggested that a large noticeboard similar to that posted at Charleton Horethorne Village Hall might be a solution. It should be visible to users of Lower Lane to advertise the Hall. CB pointed out that the Hall's website gets quite a few hits on Google and JM said that he gets the occasional enquiry from the Hallshire website. The need is for people to be aware that the Hall is open for business. The Badminton club closed during the Covid pandemic and steps should be taken to resurrect the club. GM suggested the hall purchase a net and because the court is available, there was no reason why its use by hirers should not be on an ad hoc basis. **Action** CB. GC. JM.

5. Chair report.

Very little of consequence has happened since the last meeting. There has been a re-occurrence of the warping floor, but fortunately, not to the extent it previously was deformed. The oil tank cover has been replaced and awaits its next coat of paint. An Inventory has been carried out.

6. Treasurers report.

Since our last meeting on 9th December 2022, there is little to report. Income has exceeded expenditure by about £215, mainly due to the late receipt of £200 from South Somerset District Council for hire of the Hall for the elections last May. Otherwise our outgoings for cleaning, electricity and insurance have been balanced by four private hires and a regular payment from Emma Riley for Yoga. A benefit from switching to Santander for our banking is apparent with the addition of £12.84 in interest on our deposit account. The previous COIF account showed virtually no growth over the previous five years. The Santander a current account has a balance of £879.43 and the deposit account stands at £16,624.37.

7. Bookings report.

The Village Hall classes continue to be well attended in art and yoga. We have had the usual number of children's parties. The Hall bookings level remains positive.

8. Sports report.

TBN.

VF reported that OF has resigned from the chairmanship of the South Cheriton United football club. Presently the future status of the club is unknown.

9. Parish Council report.

GM reported a planning application to the Parish Council for change of use of a building in Marsh Lane for a dog training business.

Sarah Dyke, our elected District Councillor visited the council and gave an overview of her position.

There will be a Coronation tea in the hall on Sunday, the 7th of May at 1600.

10. Maintenance.

Fire extinguishers. A new CO2 extinguisher has been purchased, to be installed shortly. It has a 10 year warranty from date of manufacture. JM offered the old CO2 extinguisher to anybody on the committee who might be prepared to make a small donation. GC made an offer.

EM stated that the flexible flooring in the ladies toilet was beginning to come away from wall and needed to be re-fixed. **Action** JM.

CB commented on the price of the annual boiler service and suggested that the committee might consider a change of heating engineer. The suggestion was a local man who is prepared to discount his charge for Village Halls. Committee approved an approach to Rodney Steer for next November's service. **Action** CB.

11. AOB.

Noticeboard. This was covered in the discussion about utilisation of the Hall in Matters Arising.

Heating boost timer switch. On a couple of occasions when passing the Hall JM noticed the heating appeared to be on. When checking inside the hall this was the case. JM suggested that since the timer was approximately 10 years old, it may well be a sticking switch and it might be worthwhile changing the whole timer unit. Committee approved payment for a new switch. **Action JM.**

Emergency lighting. On JM's monthly safety check there were two emergency lights found to be unserviceable. One in the changing rooms is approximately 20 years old and the one above the old entrance door must be considerably older. Both failed their checks and need to be replaced. Committee was asked to authorise payment for two new emergency exit lights and their installation. This was agreed. **Action JM.**

Key Register. JM is updating the register and ascertained which members of the committee held keys.

Old crockery. While compiling a new inventory recently, GC mentioned that there were still a large number of pieces of old crockery in situ and a few of the boxes of new crockery hadn't been opened. He suggested we ought to send the old crockery to local charity shops, but the committee felt the charity shops were unlikely to want any of the old pieces. VF suggested they could be used at the next village fête as targets for the coconut shy. JM to approach the school secretary, Mrs. Judith Ham, or the headmistress, Mrs. Barge with an offer. **Action JM.**

12. Date of next committee meeting.

The date of the next meeting, the AGM, will be 13 May 2023 at 1000.

The meeting closed at 2005.