

## SHOTTESWELL VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 11<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2022 (046)

PRESENT: Ben Zammett, Claire Jeffrey, Linda Clark, Terry Clark, Jeanette Coogan, Anne Omer, George Nell, Simon Brookes, Harriet Jordan.

APOLOGIES: Hilary Wareing.

MINUTES: The minutes of 8<sup>th</sup> March, 2022 were approved. (GN proposed; JC seconded.)

MATTERS ARISING: HW is going to purchase a recycling bin for indoors.

### LETTINGS:

We have received notice that 'Little Performers' will not be hiring the hall after 25th June as they are relocating. 'Moo Music' too will not be continuing. Compared to other village halls we still have a busy schedule and have reserves. However, we need to look at publicity. Our charges are cheap considering we offer heating, wi-fi, kitchen facilities, etc. and we are in a central location. Various uses of the hall were put forward, some of which will be followed up but we are looking for some more regular bookings. SB will look at Twitter, Instagram, Facebook.

In recent days we have had three bookings including a party on 21<sup>st</sup> May.

### TREASURER'S REPORT:

Without income from 'Little Performers' and 'Moo Music' our present bookings will not quite cover the costs, which should reduce a little with fewer hires. There is approx. £17,000 in the bank including £5743 in the Co-op account. Interest at the moment is miniscule. A plumber's bill is due.

We are being contacted by various organisations trying to get us to get into a new contract now. The SSE contract doesn't run out until September, 2023 and they suggest contacting them in March next year. We will put Electricity on our July agenda and look at our costs once 'Little Performers' has ceased. HJ suggested we may be able to learn from how other halls are run.

WARM HUB: The chimney sweep slot needs to be filled. In conjunction with WRCC and Cadent there is funding for community outreach projects, e.g., checking out houses for energy efficiency. However, we would have to do the legwork in finding a company to do it, etc.

### MAINTENANCE:

Owing to the sudden reduction in income we may have to decide between a noticeboard replacement or a new flagpole.

Noticeboard. It will be easier to get funding for a new noticeboard. We had been made aware of a couple of grant opportunities. The existing noticeboard is shabby and beyond repair. Details of a proposed aluminium one and an oak one had been circulated. Highwayers were not keen for the noticeboard to go near the flagpole so it was suggested it should be to the right of the steps, i.e. not far from the existing one but on the other side of the steps. It was unanimous that we apply for a grant and the majority were in favour of a triple aluminium one with a magnetic backboard.

Flagpole. The pole is wobbly, rotting and difficult to repair. We agreed that a new one (slightly lower at 6m) could be erected in the same location with a concrete base installed by a supplier so that the warranty isn't compromised. As it brings in an income and is considered to be an asset to the village we could consider taking the cost from our reserves. Proposed by TC, seconded by LC and

unanimously agreed. It was then suggested that we could approach the Parish Council for a contribution/grant towards the cost and this was agreed.

SOLAR/GRANTS: The architect has done his proposal of fees. Proposals had been circulated to the committee beforehand. The number of panels (10) was limited by the aspects of the roof. Three companies had quoted. An alternative to having battery storage was discussed but advice from all three tenders was to opt for battery storage. The Stratford Energy proposal looked the best and it was unanimously agreed that they should do a survey at a cost of £150. This was non-refundable unless we went ahead with their quote.

Double entrance doors. The present doors are not a good fit and stop-gap measures to reduce heat loss are not working. A CN Glass quote had been circulated for UPVC doors with a low threshold and double lock and we could incorporate this into the solar panels application for funding. HW (not present at the meeting) had indicated by email that she preferred wooden doors.

A.O.B.

Bins. Bin collection rotas will be changing in August and we need to exercise more care in disposal of rubbish. A recycling separator bin is being bought for the kitchen. AO said that a neighbour to the village hall had offered to put out our bins for us. We had only recently agreed that this job would fall on whoever was cleaning that week but we said we would see how it worked with the neighbour.

Breakfast. The Harley-Davison group were attending our next breakfast and details for serving and clearing up were discussed.

Safeguarding. Our policy may have to be rewritten once we receive some information from WRCC.

County Councillor's grant. It was agreed that we ask for a new microwave which would be more serviceable.

Keith Westcott talk. We would possibly re-advertise nearer the weekend.

Indian take-away. Still coming to the village hall regularly and advertising, DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, 20<sup>th</sup> July.

**Approved by committee - Wednesday 20th July 2022**

*B Jammett*