

**Minutes of the Meeting of Winterton-on-Sea Village Hall Committee
Tuesday 20th August 2019 11am Winterton Village Hall**

Present: Eric Lund (Chairman)
John Allen
Elaine Hillier
Claire Thompson
Catherine Moore (Parish Clerk)

Also attended: 19 members of the public.

1. Apologies for Absence

None.

2. Declarations of Interest and Applications for Dispensation

None.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 25th July 2019 were **agreed** and signed by the Chairman.

4. Update on matters arising from the minutes

a) Resignations

The Chairman reported that Ayeshia Hammond Young and Norman Parcell had resigned from the Village Hall Committee.

b) Notice Board Access

The Chairman reported that all notice boards were now accessible and had been refurbished. The notices previously placed at the Post Office would now be available at the Village Hall.

c) Recycling Separator

This was still being investigated.

EL

5. Public Participation

A member of the public raised concerns on the following matters:

- Garage Sale - communication regarding the cancellation of the Village Hall sale;
- Council tax - implications that this would be needed for the running of the Hall;
- Hiring - statements regarding the lack of hiring of the Hall.

The speaker felt that the Garage Sale could have gone ahead as the Council was supplied with all of the necessary information; and that with £22,000 in the bank at the time that the previous Committee stood down, there should not be a shortfall in funds.

In response, the Chairman noted that the decision to originally postpone the Garage Sale, as well as the cancellation of the September date, was made democratically. The original date did not fit with the Council's elections calendar, or the publication of the newsletter to advertise it. He noted that with the departure of a number of regular hirers, the Hall was expected to make a loss in 2019/20, and could potentially need to look to the precept to

balance the revenue budget. Investment was being made in the Hall and new regular hirers, as well as more casual hirers, would be sought once works were complete.

A member of the public expressed their concerns regarding the communication made about the cancellation of the Garage Sale in September, feeling that it implied that she would be responsible for council tax rises. She highlighted that the alternative Garage Sale was a great day with a lot of money raised for community groups. She felt that the Parish Council's communication was to the detriment of the 17th August event, and asked for an apology from the Chairman for the implied inferences in the statement which was put out cancelling the Garage Sale in September. In response, the Chairman confirmed that no offence had been intended and that the wishes for a successful day were genuinely meant, which was clarified on the Facebook post. The notice at the Post Office had been covered up by a third party. He noted that written messages can be construed in a number of ways, and that it was not the intention to cause offence, and that no apology was required. The speaker asked again for an apology, which was declined.

A member of the public asked the reasons why groups had left the Village Hall. It was confirmed that the Foot Clinic had left due to the increase in hire charges, and did not want to engage in conversation about the increase; the Royal British Legion had left as there was no parking available at the Hall; the Carers had left because they had outgrown the Hall and needed better disabled access and parking; Prayer & Praise and the Friendship Club had not given their reasons, but it was later clarified by a member of the Friendship Club that this was due to offence taken to the email asking the Club to move their equipment from the kitchen to the cupboard.

The Chairman apologised on behalf of the Committee if anyone had taken offence to recent communications, but felt that this was due to misunderstandings and that there was no intention to cause offence. He noted that there were two vacancies on the Council, which gave members of the public an ideal opportunity to have their say and make decisions on behalf of the community.

A representative of the 901 Troop noted that they had been in Winterton for 19 years, and they were the only organisation for young people based at the Village Hall. A public apology had been made for any upset caused by activities on Saturday, however there had been a lot of supportive comments on Facebook in response to this.

In response, the Chairman noted that he had contacted the Acting Commander in response to complaints received from members of the public including someone who had put cones outside their house so a disabled relative could park accessibly, and they had been removed by someone thought to be a Cadet - it was clarified that this was a young person in cadet fatigues but not a member of the Troop. Unfortunately the complaint was received after the event so it could not be dealt with at the time. The Acting Commander apologised for leaving the Hall in a mess, and recognised it was being kept clean by volunteers. It was noted that the water used for the car

wash was on the Hall meter, an offer was made at the meeting to contribute to this however it was noted that this was not the issue. The Acting Commander reiterated that she would prefer to receive a complaint at the time it happens so that it can be dealt with immediately, and that she was very approachable in this respect. The Chairman confirmed that both the Parish Council and the Village Hall Committee were 100% supportive of the 901 Troop.

6. Finance

a) Receipts, Payments, and Bank Reconciliation

There had been receipts of £327.20 and payments of £807.37 in July 2019. The earmarked reserve at 31.07.19 was £20,578.15.

b) Accounts for Payment

The following payments were **approved** at the meeting:

E Hillier	V Hall & Fete Equipment	£365.20
N Parcell	Stationary	£9.28
E Lund	Paint	£8.00
PPL PRS	Music License	£124.80
Utilities Warehouse	Electric	£85.87
	TOTAL	£593.15

The Clerk noted that the next electric bill was expected to be over £200 as the estimated bills were some way off from the actual reading taken in August.

7. Maintenance and Risk Assessment

a) Regular Maintenance

The Chairman reported that the Hall had been redecorated in the other areas, and that the flooring would be replaced in entrance / toilets / kitchen. Once all work was complete, the Hall would be advertised for increased numbers of bookings.

b) Fire Door

This was still ongoing and needed to be a suitable standard for insurance purposes.

EL

c) Showers

Quotes were being obtained to remove and decommission the showers.

EL / EH

d) Damp in Kitchen

This had been treated and painted, and the leak in the roof fixed.

e) Flooring in Toilets

Three quotes had been received, and it was **agreed** to commission the new flooring with the company who installed the main hall flooring at a cost of £1,823.00. The Chairman would be arranging for skirting boards to also be installed.

EL

8. Future Events

Claire reported that the arrangements for the Summer Fayre were progressing well, with 27 stalls booked, a ukulele band entertaining and a few

last minute extras. The dog show was being run by Hollie who ran the puppy training classes, and would be at the top of the Green. Volunteers on the day would be very welcome.

The risk assessment for the event was **agreed**, noting that the first aid arrangements were still to be organised. Some cones were requested for the corner of Empsons Loke which was a problem area for parking. The band would be playing on the road, so volunteers in high viz would be required to block each end for the 15 minutes of their performance. It was noted that the parking restrictions were likely to be lifted on 1st September as there had been delays at County Hall in implementing the year round prohibition, so there could be parking issues on Beach Road.

Claire was thanked for pulling the Fayre together at short notice.

Planning for other events would begin properly after the Summer Fayre.

9. Ongoing Matters

a) Recruitment of Caretaker

Two applications had been received. It was **agreed** that the Committee would interview the candidates.

b) Electricity Contract

The Clerk briefed on the four prices received, noting that on the bill comparison Bulb came out the cheapest. It was **agreed** to move the supply to Bulb.

Clerk

c) Fire Extinguisher Servicing

The Clerk had received two quotes for fire extinguisher servicing, it was **agreed** to use Flameskill at a cost of around £35.

Clerk

d) Revised Terms and Conditions

The revised terms and conditions were **agreed**. The Clerk was asked to put these onto the website. The revised conditions would be sent to all hirers.

Clerk

e) Damage Deposits

It was **agreed** that casual hirers would be charged a damage deposit of £60, or £250 where alcohol was being served, which was in line with other venues.

10. Date of next meetings:

- Tuesday 17th September 2019, 11am, Village Hall

The meeting closed at 12.15pm .

CHAIRMAN