

PARISH HALL COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday 24th August 2023

Present: T. Postlethwaite, C. Postlethwaite, J. Lander, SA. Lander, D. Hazlehurst, B. Lomas, C. Phipps, J. Pattison-Evans

Apologies: T. Hudson, P. Gilpin

Minutes of last meeting 22nd June 2023 were read, confirmed and signed as a true and correct record.

Matters Arising:

Heating. Dan has managed to get 3 quotes for the heating. The boiler will be a combi boiler, which will also remove the need for the hot water tanks in the loft. The quotes are all similar in cost with some small differences in exactly what they cover, relating to size of Boiler (35KW vs 40KW), number of radiators (10-15) and type of radiators – it was decided not to soft touch as these are not appropriate for Village Hall usage. Radiator guards will be used to protect from burns. There are some remaining questions on specifics namely to check the people quoting can provide the full paperwork to show they can install in public buildings, the use of a Hive thermostat and VAT registration status. The number and position of radiators is also to be confirmed, (probably better for fewer larger radiators), the exact position of new boiler is also to be discussed with the installers. The quote from Cadent to bring the gas to the Hall may be somewhat dependent on where they bring the gas pipe from. They stated it will be either from Church Croft or Oakden Cl, our preference is from Oakden Cl. The current electric heating system will also require removal, potentially Woodward's to be asked to disconnect it.

The total cost is expected to be around £20,000. Currently the monthly electricity bill is approx. £800 and this is expected to drop to £400 with the gas system. Therefore, the payback time is expected to be approx. 4-5 years, depending on energy costs over this period.

Cadent have stated approximately 6 weeks until they can do the work to bring gas into the Hall, and all 3 potential installers are expected to be available to start after this.

Barrie is working to access money from the investments to pay for the costs. He will also look to claim back VAT on the work, which could reduce the overall cost.

Cathy applied for the ESBC community lottery, which is now up and running. She could not find information on Elkes, but has investigated National Lottery funding, which can now be applied for as we have a good understanding of costs.

Letter to be sent to all regular hirers, asking them to detail all items they store in the Hall, so that nothing gets mislaid during the heating works, and we can also identify anything that is not owned and can be disposed of to create more space in the storage rooms. (Cathy).

Storage Constraints. Uttoxeter Table Tennis club are interested in hiring the hall, but there is limited safe storage area available, particularly for large items. The bar is an option if chairs were moved, but this would restrict access in the bar. Ideas needed on how we could increase storage for regular hirers.

A new Electrical Certificate has been issued for the Hall 22/6/23 and is valid for 5 years.

A new Hoover has been purchased from Jamie Painter for £45 to help with the mats. It was confirmed this is PAT tested.

Replacement of the bulkhead lights will be reviewed before the winter to find the optimum solution. Potentially lights similar to the recently installed PIR light could be used.

Gutters need cleaning out as these are blocking again with debris and leaves, causing leaks into the store room.

The Downspout has been reangled by Dan, which seems to have stopped the water from the gutter soaking the wall near the door in the store room.

Bookings Secretary: There have been a number of bookings recently, which is welcome income, although a few minor issues with lights left on etc.

Treasurer's report: £2,640 in the current account. The electricity debt is currently being paid off at £600 a month, which has been helped by lower costs over the summer, and when the gas heating system is installed, further electricity costs should be more manageable. Barrie has been in touch with EON to try to get a better rate for the electricity. It was decided for the moment to stay on a variable rate rather than a fixed rate due to instability in prices. Barrie also enquired if we could have a smart meter to understand better when electricity is consumed, but the hall already has a radio tele switch, and therefore was not eligible. Change of Trustees is complete.

Web Page: It had been agreed to put a Durose page on the website, but no information has been sent through to include. The annual fee for the website has been paid £84.84

AOB

Giftaid It was suggested that certain 'income' may be eligible for Giftaid – e.g. on hall bookings. This has been checked post meeting & it not possible. Donations are eligible for Giftaid, but anything where you get something in return e.g. a ticket, goods or service, is not. (The way some charities can do this for entrance admission is by setting a charge at least 10% higher than an admission fee, where it can then be classed as a donation, or by accepting a donation and allowing free admission for at least a year). Gift aid is not permitted for Events or Special Performances

Set Up/Close Down time it was confirmed that for regular hirers a short allowance for set up/close down around the formal hire time of the hall is permitted.

Date of next meeting Monday 2nd October. at 7.15pm in the Church.

Meeting closed 8.15pm

Signed:

Date: