

## Buckland Newton Village Hall

### Minutes of the committee meeting held on Monday January 22<sup>nd</sup> 2024 at 9am

#### 1. Attendance

Kate Parish (KP), Sandi Stout (SS), Katharine Hayens (KH), Ian Scott (IS), Vinny McKenna(VM), Michelle Crozier-Jobber(MCJ) , Nicki Barker (NB) and Caron White (CW).

KP introduced Michelle who is joining the committee and will be taking over from Vinny as treasurer.

2. Apologies Jenny Ferreira and Georgie Burnett.

3. Declarations of interest None.

#### 4. Approval of minutes from meeting held on Monday October 23<sup>rd</sup> 2023

A query was raised regarding the treasurer's report. VM will investigate and inform CW who will circulate amended minutes.

5. Matters arising None.

#### 6. Treasurer's report (VM)

On 17/1 there was £3311.68 in the current account and £23511.56 in the deposit account.

No money has been deposited into a high interest account yet. Vinny will go into HSBC to enquire. NB suggested that a Charity Bank bond could realise around 5% interest. Regarding income and expenditure things are ticking over with a balance of £3000 being maintained in the current account. Insurance costs of £840.03 have yet to be paid. Income will be coming in from the Piddle Valley Players and the Post Office. It was decided to keep an eye on the oil level and price of oil and top up if there is to be a price rise. The boiler will be serviced on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> February. VM will open the hall for the engineer.

A bank mandate is required to enable MCJ to act as treasurer and be the named person on both bank accounts. IS proposed and KP seconded a resolution that MCJ be appointed as treasurer of the village hall. The rest of the committee unanimously agreed.

MCJ suggested that the village hall have its own post box possibly in the area under the veranda. KP is to buy the box and arrange fixing it in place.

The bank also needs evidence of the change in chair person. CW to find the minutes that show this. Due to difficulties with the bank needing information and not being very accommodating regarding community organisations, it was suggested that we might change bank. The Charity Bank and The CO-OP were mentioned.

Regarding the handover of treasurer from VM to MCJ, the name of the treasurer would need changing for several organisations such as the bank and the council. VM is available to help with the changeover.

KP thanked VM on behalf of the committee for being treasurer.

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

There have been a lot of single hirers for children's parties. No complaints from regular hirers about the 10% price rise. The Pilates classes are back with a Monday class and two classes on Thursday. Yoga should be back after half term on Monday evening. There is a booking for a wake. Good liaison has been had with the Piddle Valley Players who have agreed to a rise in hiring fee to £1100.

IS is to work with KP regarding the bookings diary becoming digital. This will help hirers see when the hall is available.

KP has a meeting on Friday with regard to the hall being used as a family hub. DC has funding for hubs. Dorset towns will have them but there is a gap in provision down the Piddle Valley. KP suggested that the hall could be a hub for one day a week. It could be a place where families could, for example, meet with a health visitor or receive advice about pensions or benefits. KP will ask who is going to staff the hub. If a Tuesday was the hub day, the exercise class booked in on Tuesdays could complement or be part of the hub.

IS mentioned election day on May 2<sup>nd</sup> for which £170 is charged.

#### **8. Hall roof**

KP has discussed the rotting barge board with Pete and will ask him to take a look. NB said that the roof timbers looked good when the insulation was put in. A potential issue with asbestos and the pitch of the roof was raised. KP suggested that we could ask a structural surveyor to take a look and that there might be grants to help fund repairs. IS said that John Baker had produced drawings of the roof structure. NB said that she would look for them. CW will speak to Nick Baker about the roof.

#### **9. Potential for grant funding including for an air source heat pump.** (KP.)

a. From the Department of Culture, Media and Sport, energy efficiency grants are available for the voluntary, community and social sector. Charities and community organisations can apply to have an independent energy assessment which could lead to having new energy saving equipment or changes to what we already have.

b. A Capital Grant of 2k – 150k is available to install energy efficient equipment. NB suggested an air source heat pump and solar panels as the hall boiler is aging. KP will apply. KH asked if pipe lagging could be included. IS asked if Low carbon Dorset would provide a percentage of the funding. NB informed that the hall is registered with them.

c. Levelling up fund – D.C. has government money (£20k) and is inviting applications. There are community infrastructure grants for which parish and town councils can apply with 10% match funding. The average grant is £4,500. KP suggested that, if successful, the money could be used to replace the kitchen and provide much needed extra storage. There was discussion regarding whether the kitchen needs replacing. IS suggested a kitchen working group could investigate this idea. A long work top with cupboards below was suggested for the committee room. KP raised the issue of poor storage in the room behind the stage. The shelving is in poor condition. KP will look into applying for a grant.

#### **10. Electric charge point**

The Parish Council has contacted KP regarding a vehicle charge point being sited in the village hall car park. NB said that would mean losing two car parking spaces. MCJ said that it was cheaper to charge at home. KP said that

hall users could charge their cars while at the hall though it would take a long time to do this. DC wants to create a network of charging points. There potentially could be problems regarding maintenance and a committee member would have to take on being the contact for the scheme. KP raised the prospect of levelling the bank at the front of the car park to create more space. The topic will be discussed at the next committee meeting when we should have more details from the Parish Council.

The potential of the village hall using Wessex Internet was raised by IS. Although we would only be charged £1 per month by Wessex Internet, we would have to pay VAT on the installation cost as we are classed as a business. However, the hall may be given a special deal as the installation should be simple. The hall currently pays BT £37 per month so an installation charge will be recouped.

#### **11. Jobs**

- a. KH and IS have sorted out the glasses stored in the cloakroom cupboards. Some glasses need to be re-homed. It is thought that the Church may want to have them.
- b. Door locks on cloakroom cupboard doors – It was decided to inquire about having the door into the cloakroom made into a stable door and remove the locks on the cupboards. CW to investigate.
- c. Signage for hall car park – KP to speak to Rob Nolan and ask for an estimate.

12. Suggestion of watercolour painting purchase – It was decided that CW will investigate and (with other committee members) choose a watercolour painting by Molly Clift.

#### **A.O.B.**

VM asked that committee members who will be signatories for signing purposes with the bank be proposed and seconded. The resolution was that KP, IS and MCJ are signatories for the bank. CW proposed and KH seconded. The rest of the committee unanimously agreed.

The resolution that the charity secretary and treasurer of the hall will continue to be the same person was proposed by KP and seconded by CW. The rest of the committee unanimously agreed.

KP to explore the possible implications of the proposed development next to land at the rear of the hall.

13. **Date of next meeting**

Monday April 22<sup>nd</sup> at 9am.

Meeting closed at 11.00am