

SHERFIELD-ON-LODDON VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Meeting held on 9th January 2023 at 7.30 pm in the Garden Room at the Village Hall

Present: Alan Ball, Bruce Batting, Eleanor Burt, Ivan Gosden, Natalie Larner, Ian Sellars
& Derek Tarrant

In attendance: Gilly Woodland

1. Apologies for Absence

All members were present at the meeting.

2. Minutes of the Management Meeting held on 5th December 2022

The minutes of the meeting held on 5th December 2022 had been circulated and were agreed as a correct record.

3. Finance Report

Derek reported that the bank account balances were £16,162.74 & £8,392.45. The Caretaker's Cottage roof repair has been paid for but Fete proceeds to charities had not yet been paid out.

The John Kirkpatrick evening had made a profit of £1,151.58 and the December Village Market £489.91.

Derek reported that he would be going to Metro Bank on 10th January to finalise matters with the accounts.

Derek reported that he has all five Sum Up machines which have been unlocked and are ready to use

4. Report from Duckwood Marketing

"Marketing

- General website updates, social media posts, Venues4Hire, etc.
- I will update the Sunday Market dates on the website.
- I will submit February's LVL information.

Fundraising

- I will ask our Councillors for contributions from their funds for the refurbishment of the cottage and painting the exterior of the Village Hall.
- Need a 3-year Business Plan to apply for most funding, particularly larger amounts.
- Warm Places/Hubs fund: called Helen to discuss how we can use the Lunch Club for this. Combined with information from Derek, we will be able to make a strong case. Already on the Warm Hubs website of BVA. BVA advise looking at HCC Leader Fund grants as there are *no specific* Warm Places grants.
- HCC Leader Fund: grants of 25k+ for building work available. Need to write a justification.
- Platinum Jubilee Fund (7.5k to 75k) via ACRE, opens on 20th February. Note in the diary to apply! Downloaded a list of questions which will be asked so I can prepare. Fund is for improvement works to village halls, including restoration and modernisation.
- Postcode Lottery funding round opened on 3rd October. Will apply for £100,000.
- Garfield Weston Foundation: we are eligible. Capital projects funding available.
- NFU Mutual: large project funding available. Will apply for £100,000.
- Need to consider HCC Local Solutions grants (up to £10k). Could be used to achieve outcomes such as prevention of loneliness and isolation, enabling recreational facilities and services. I will discuss this with Bruce Batting.

Others:

- South Western Railway: we would need to prove that use of our facilities would increase passengers on the railway.
- LIF grants no longer exist, so requested information from the Rural Communities fund (maximum £5,000 match-funded). *To date, no response.*
- I have sent the latest accounts to the Four Lanes Trust so they can issue their grant for £1,000.

Website Statistics

Last 30 Days to 9 January 2023:

- The website had 347 sessions (people signing in), a decrease of 33% from the previous 30 days. None on Christmas Day and 2 on Boxing Day!
- 633 pages were viewed, a decrease of 33% from the previous 30 days.
- People spent an average of 45 seconds on each page, a decrease of 45%.
- 71% of people who viewed the website were new users, and 29% were returning. 42% of people viewed the website on their mobile 'phones, 54% on desktop computers and 4% on tablets.
- The most popular pages were: Home, Book Here, News & Events, Sunday Market, Facilities and Booking, Activities"

5. Happy Faces

A letter had been received from Happy Faces stating that they were not happy to pay metered invoices for gas use but would prefer to pay an increased hourly charge to include gas. It was agreed that Ivan and Derek will take meter readings to establish the average use of gas at the Liddell Hall in order to work out a fair increased hourly charge to include gas usage. The proposed new charge will be circulated to Trustees.

6. Fund Raising

Barn Dance – tickets are sold out (95 sold) with a profit expected on tickets of £500. Ian Sellars agreed to let Ivan Gosden have food numbers by the end of the week.

Action: Ian Sellars to let Ivan Gosden have food numbers by the end of the week

Puppet Show – Natalie Lerner reported that the Puppet Show is all organized and she will send necessary information to Bruce Batting.

Action: Natalie Lerner to send Puppet Show information to Bruce Batting

7. No 2 Cottage

Ivan Gosden reported that he had received some estimates for repair works to the Cottage but is awaiting further estimates. It was agreed that a grant be submitted to the Parish Council for a grant towards the Cottage repair works – Bruce Batting and Gilly Woodland to complete the grant application.

Action: Bruce Batting & Gilly Woodland to complete grant application for submission to the Parish Council

8. EV Charger

Ian Sellars reported that for December 324kw had been used (£187) and 1800kg of CO2 saved.

9. Garden

It was agreed that Happy Faces should not be using the grass areas during the wet weather. It was agreed that Bruce Batting will pass this request on to Happy Faces.

Action: Bruce Batting to ask Happy Faces not to use the grass areas during the wet weather

10. Jubilee Photo Book

Natalie reported that the Photobook will be arriving at the end of January.

11. Defibrillator Records

Derek Tarrant agreed to contact Bruce Jones for details of servicing records for the defibrillator for the online register.

Action: Derek Tarrant to contact Bruce Jones to obtain service records for the defibrillator

12. Date of Next Meeting

The next monthly meeting will be held on 6th February 2023 at 7.30 pm in the Garden Room at the Village Hall.

Actions

Ian Sellars to let Ivan Gosden have food numbers by the end of the week

Natalie Larner to send Puppet Show information to Bruce Batting

Bruce Batting & Gilly Woodland to complete grant application for submission to the Parish Council

Bruce Batting to ask Happy Faces not to use the grass areas during the wet weather

Derek Tarrant to contact Bruce Jones to obtain service records for the defibrillator