

MINUTES OF GREAT WHITTINGTON VILLAGE HALL MEETING 15th AUGUST 2023

1. Those Present. M. Bassendine, LGillam, B. Hinchcliffe, P. Hinchcliffe, M. McKenzie, J. Wilkes, E. Young.

Apologies were received from T. Tiffin.

2. The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed as correct.

3. Matters Arising

Donation box in car park has been fitted.

Ping Pong Table. EY has spoken to Alison Bragg and it is in hand.

Film Nights. Nothing to report

4. Social Events.

BBQ. Now rearranged for Saturday 26th August. JW was to send out an email reminder and provision of food and drinks was discussed.

Coffee Morning. This was successful with Usborne Books in attendance.

Christmas Fair. JW confirmed that the candle maker required two tables as would Tillies Barn.

Other confirmed tables were walking sticks and WI. EY agreed to contact John Saddler about Alive and Kicking. MB had yet to contact First and Last Brewery. There is a possibility that Usborne Books could provide books but not attend. MM would follow this up.

Highlights. EY confirmed two productions, a play called Fell on Saturday 21st October and a music event Basset on Sunday 19th November.

Opera and Ballet. PH reported he could get an annual licence from ROH for £100. We would attempt a winter season. MB reported that she could do something similar with the British Film Institute.

Women's World Cup Final. It was agreed to open the hall for large screen viewing if England reached it. PH would give JW details for posting.

Wine Tasting. MB reported that she had a contact who would be willing to hold a wine tasting event at the hall. She would obtain available dates.

Hadrian Wall Talk. MB reported she had attended a very interesting talk on Hadrians Wall and she would pursue this as an event.

5. Hall Hire.

Craft Evening. The opening one was held in July and would continue from September twice per month on a Wednesday at 6.30 pm with attendees paying £3 per head with £12 rent to the hall. Glynis Murray Hill had approached committee members about the possibilities of young mothers occasionally meeting at the hall for combined children's play and coffee. It was agreed to charge £2.00 per person. LG to contact her.

PH reported that the November Group wanted to hire the hall on November 25th for a production about Josephine Buttler, a local heroine.

6. Finance. EY gave a financial report. We had spent considerably more than our income so far this year but much of it was from ring fenced funds for projects plus scheduled long term expenditure on roofs, woodworm treatment and painting. Apart from these normal income and expenditure was in line. She expressed concern that the painter was paid cash. After all current expenditure we would still have substantial available funds.

7. Health and Safety. JW reported that the annual fire extinguishers check needed to be carried out and one needed replacing. She had obtained new removable signs to replace those removed for the painting. PH was to fit them before the BBQ.

8. IT and Facebook. JW reported that Facebook was generating a lot of interest.

9. Gardening. PH reported that Kaz had asked for posts to control the roses. He had some which may be suitable. MM said she had asked for a couple of shrubs and this was agreed.

10. Maintenance. PH reported that both flat roof coverings had been replaced, the woodworm treatment completed as had the painting. The coronation bench was now secured. MM had painted the two outside benches. The pictures were to be put back up and the floor of both

porches painted before the BBQ. PH would look into obtaining curtain pulls for the large window and remove the rail in the committee room. Although the hall now looks very clean and fresh it was disappointing that the wood panelling was not as depicted on the colour charts. It was agreed that nothing should be done until next year when it would be reviewed.

11. Solar Project. This was completed and final reports sent to all grant providers. The location of the batteries only allowed 7 units, 19.6 KWh of storage so one unit had been credited. TT had sourced someone to cut back the leylandi overhanging the panels and this would be done in September when bird nesting season was over. We were visited by a rep from Mitsubishi who explained the heating controls to PH and the system would be programmed to heat the hall for all regular events. Details of operation of the melcloud system would be passed to committee members.

12. Emergency Hub Project. PH said he would purchase trollies to enable easy movement of the generators and gas bottles. JW expressed concern about the number of volunteers and PH said he would draft something to go on the website and email about the cheque presentation in an attempt to gain more volunteers.

13 Heritage Project. MB reported that she would contact Tracy Morgan about invoices and the project was ongoing.

14. EV Charging Point. BH, PH and JW had attended a meeting about grants in Corbridge. Two sources of funding were possibilities but PH said there was no point progressing it until Eon had changed the meters.

15. Little Free Library. Following emails from Marion Petrie and Chrissy Ross about installation of the libraries in the garden it was agreed not to go ahead with this and BH was to write to them suggesting they donate the libraries to deprived areas.

16. AOB Nothing.

17. Next Meeting. To be arranged in early November.