

MINUTES OF GREAT WHITTINGTON VILLAGE HALL MEETING 1st NOV 2023 AT THE HALL

1. Those Present. B. Hinchcliffe, P. Hinchcliffe M. McKenzie, T. Tiffin, J. Wilkes, E. Young.
Apologies were received from L. Gillam.

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

3. Matters Arising

Ping pong table. No further developments

Film Nights. P. H. has asked Louise Curry to provide details of licensing requirements. M. M. reported that she had the name of someone who might run a film club and B. H. would contact them.

4. Functional Reports.

Social Events

BBQ was successful despite poor weather.

Hadrians Wall Talk. There was a good attendance and very interesting. Speaker would be prepared to do another talk.

M. M. has passed on details to M. B. of someone who had given a very good talk to WI.

Coffee Mornings. September and October events successful. November, Usborne Books are to attend and the catering arrangements agreed.

Christmas Fair. J.W. stated that 7 tables had been confirmed and she would publicise it nearer the event. P. H. said he would make an announcement at the November event. Discussion took place regarding hall set up and catering.

Highlights. Fell. Not as good attendance possibly as it clashed with RFU World Cup. Although a good play there were a few issues which E. Y. has raised with Highlights. Bassett. 19th November E. Y. pleased with sales to date for this music event. She also has details for the spring program and will put in a bid. T. T. asked about family events and this is a possibility for next autumn.

November Club. 25th November. Josey. This is a free event with booking on line and flyers already distributed. They are renting the hall and we can run the bar.

Opera and Ballet. P.H. Will action this in the new year.

Hall Hire.

Going well with about £400 for October and November. Unfortunately after a recent event the hall was left in a very poor state. B.H. to rewrite Hiring Agreement to include a possible extra charge for cleaning if the hall not left as found. L.G. had informed P.H. that the booking enquiry on the website could not be used and E.Y. agreed to look into this or it could be raised at the digital meeting. E.Y. reported that there was a problem of access to the hall for the Crafty Evenings if either she or M.B. was not present. It was agreed that she should have another key to pass round the group.

Finance

E.Y. gave a financial report.

Health and Safety.

J.W. was still progressing the annual fire extinguisher check. The old ones could be taken to Hexham recycling centre.

Salt bin. J.W. had received an email from Simon Gregory asking if we would pay for the salt. It was felt that this facility was mainly for road and path use at the top of the village and on the back lane. The hall use was negligible. She would respond.

IT and Facebook.

Now 394 Facebook followers. There is difficulty putting photos on the website. P.H. would discuss it with Sylvia Pringle in November.

Gardening.

M.M. reported that gardeners had mown over new shrub and she had raised it with Simon Og.

Posts for roses. P.H. reported that Kaz had requested posts to hold back the roses and some had been found and set in. He would attempt to pull them back one fine day.

Maintenance.

P.H. reported that he had painted porch floors, hung pictures and taken down curtain rail in committee room and made good. Had not been able to source curtain pull long enough for large curtains and would make something with cord. The shed has now been cleared. Hatch cover to cloakroom and door draught foam strips to be fitted to doors. J.W. said the paint on the doorway to the committee room was chipped and suggested a protective strip. In the meantime P.H. would touch it up. P. H. said the hall floor needed resealing next year.

5. Solar Heating Project.

P.H. reported problems in obtaining a smart three phase meter which was needed for the most efficient use of the system. In the meantime he would speak to Malcolm Archer about a work round. He has contacted WNCBC to try to get a commercial EPC supplier as the £5000 BUS grant was still a possibility. Alfie Wood has agreed to cut branches overhanging panels.

6. Emergency Hub.

T.T. and P.H. would do a trial run before doing a demonstration to committee members and volunteers

7. Heritage Project.

P.H. has sent copy of photo descriptions and locations to Tracey Morgan. E.Y. suggested a diagram showing their locations and would prepare it.

8. EV Charging Point.

Nothing could be done until a three phase meter was installed.

9. Gigabit Project.

P.H. reported that at a recent zoom meeting hosted by CAN about broadband he discovered that some halls were getting free super fast broadband as part of the government Gigabit Project. Our postcode was in an area which is out to tender now and Sylvia Pringle of NCC would keep us informed. CAN is running a broadband awareness session for village halls here on Tuesday 28th November, paying us £30 rent and all committee members are invited to attend.

10. Village Hall Inspiration Award.

Minor changes were made to the entry document and E.Y. agreed to submit it.

11. AOB.

E. Y. reported that the bank had said no further hard copy bank statements would be issued and all would be on line.

12. Next Meeting. To be agreed next year.