

MINUTES OF GREAT WHITTINGTON VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE ON 8th DECEMBER 2021 AT 7.30pm.

1. Those Present. M. Bassendine, L. Gillam, B.Hinchcliffe, P. Hinchcliffe, I. Jackson, M. McKenzie, M. Petrie, C.Ross, J.Wilkes, E. Young. Apologies were received from A.Lawson

The chair then noted that C.R. was now the new PC representative replacing Andrew Williamson.

2. The minutes were agreed after the following alterations.

Gift aid was awaiting hard copies of documents for approval.

TV Licence was held up as hall did not have post code. Now done.

Bluebell Fields should be Bluebell Rise.

Windows had been cleaned by C. Bryce at a cost of £50. It was agreed that no further cleaning to be done this winter.

Hall cleaning. No success yet in finding a cleaner. Sourcing a second hand Hoover was agreed.

3. Functional Reports.

Social. It was agreed unanimously to cancel the Christmas Social and all social events until the covid situation was clarified. A reopening event could be held when the situation allowed. M. P. to put on website, Facebook and email list. P. H thanked Michele for all the work she had already put in towards the Social and all agreed.

Highlights. This was cancelled due to power cut but would be reorganised in 2022. A music event has been arranged for 15th May. The cost of this event would be up to £250 and tickets would still be £10.

Friday nights. The Fish and Chips to continue when allowed plus a film night and look into an alternative programme.

Educational and Cultural. CPRE although well advertised was poorly attended. The AV system worked well. They would like to return.

In February M. B. suggested an open meeting to discuss the heritage project which would coincide with the fiftieth anniversary.

Finance. E.Y. gave a financial report, the main expenditure was the AV system. Events continued to provide a steady income.

Health and Safety. J. W. reported that after numerous attempts to get the basin installed the plumber had said find someone else. She had contacted someone else and was waiting a reply. It was agreed to go for a one and a half bowl sink instead of a basin.

She had obtained a recycling bin.

Information Technology. M.P. reported that one grant was underspent by £20. As there was no Internet service yet P.H. said there was a BT contract at £40 per month which was not yet started and a note to that effect could be added to the report for submission.

M.P. Suggested a training session for committee members on the AV system as only two were au fait with the system.

P.H. Explained ongoing problems with BT over pole or way leave. The cost of the way leave surprisingly at the moment was more than the pole. He was still working on it.

Facebook. More interest in Facebook than website but information was put on both simultaneously.

Gardening. M. B. Reported that the gardening group had had two meetings and wanted a further meeting in February or March. M.P. and I.J. had a meeting with several village ladies and discussed sports field and possibility of gardening for children. B. H. said there had been a village allotment organised by Val Tuck who had been the mainstay of the village for Northumbria in Bloom. M. B to raise it with Alison Bragg who lives near it. I. J. said we, as trustees, should have a conversation with the group about providing facilities within the village. C.R. said this would be a way of engaging with the community. J.W. said in relation to this it should be remembered that parents had responsibility for their children and it was not the trustees responsibility. There was some disagreement as to the role of trustees on this.

Maintenance. P. H. said he would ensure the windows were weatherproof when they were dry enough to deal with.

4. Grant Report. P.H. said that documents had been submitted on time and a first meeting was being held today. No decision would be made until February. He had been in contact with two other companies re heat pumps.

5. Bluebell Rise. P. H. and I. J. to contact the developer regarding the access strip around the hall. P. H. had again contacted the official custodian re the plans but they were not yet available. M. B. said a larger area would allow a fire escape..

6. LFL. M. P. reported their arrival and would be constructed after Christmas in time for World Book Day. J. W. had received many books from the library service.

7. Heritage Project. I. J. stated this to be started next year as part of the fiftieth anniversary of the hall. M. B. suggested putting a circular round the village and to have an open meeting in February to discuss. She said she would contact G. Jones re the previous photography group.

8. Film Club. M.P. reported that she now had an umbrella licence to show films which can be shown through a streaming service. Netflix offerings covered by the licence could be shown. She had paid the first month Netflix fee. We need to form a film club which could start in the New Year.
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9. Governance. I. J. had forwarded a paper to trustees re the Hallmark Project. There were 39 sections to it and he would progress it with the help of other trustees.

10. AOB. M. B. raised the power cut problems and suggested the possibility of the hall getting a generator and applying for a grant. J.W. said her parents had previously had one and it was more complicated to use. P.H. said it was a very skilled operation involving interlocks to prevent damage. M. P. suggested gas cooker and heating. It was agreed that all would give it thought as it would be of great benefit to the village in the event of future power cuts.

M. M. said she had put a dehumidifier in each window.

Electric Usage. P. H. reported that he had read the meters and we were currently using about 60kwh per day. He will monitor it over the next few weeks and report back.

11. Next meeting 19th January in the hall.