

Redlake Valley Village Hall

Committee Meeting

Held on Thursday, 24 July 2008 at 7.30pm

Present

Richard Barthram
Patrick Cosgrove
Jane Kent
Julian Kent (Treasurer)
Helena Lane
Michael Macturk
James Middleton (Chairman)
Roy Oldfield
Barry Palmer
Beryl Palmer
Kim Smith
Becky Whitton (acting scribe)

Apologies

Di Cosgrove
Christine Page (Secretary)
Vi & Steve Sherring
Sheila Smith

Apologies

1. Matters Arising

a. Quotes for Hall Toilets – the relevant passage from the last AGM minutes was read to the committee. The Chairman read out details of the estimates and quotes received from Chris Garland, L&M Grimes, David Bright and Onny Developments, as per the attached sheet, which was distributed to the committee to review. David Bright's quote was explained in detail showing potential areas of saving.

The Chairman explained the options for the flooring, being either to patch up the existing tiles or to put in a non-slip floor. The latter was not a requirement specified in the architect's drawings but would be desirable if or when funds allow.

All the quotes were above the grant value of £6,500, however, the Chairman emphasised the need to take advantage of this grant as the opportunity may not arise again in the near future.

The Treasurer, explained the VAT situation, which allows some of the work to be zero-rated: notably all works associated with the construction of the disabled toilet. It was agreed that the Treasurer and the Secretary would discuss this in more detail with builder.

The Treasurer stated that there is £2,906.88 in the hall fund, of which £885 is ring-fenced. Leaving just over two thousand pounds available to spend now. The next major expense for the hall is the insurance premium, approximately

£800, due early 2009.

Michael Macturk suggested having unisex toilets if this might be a cheaper option. However, given timescales the Chairman pointed out that we did not have the flexibility to change tack.

Helena Lane questioned the emphasis by Onny Developments on drainage, when other builders had included it in their quote.

There was a general discussion on the hall's ability to top up the grant with enough funds to pay for the project. The Chairman proposed that if there turned out to be a shortfall, then on a voluntary basis some members of the community could underwrite the expenditure in order that the work could go ahead at this time. This was agreed by the committee should it be necessary, with several people volunteering.

The Treasurer then proposed that we go ahead with David Bright to do the work. Seconded by Kim Smith. Carried unanimously.

The Treasurer and Secretary were tasked with taking this forward.

The Chairman volunteered the air-gun club to do the painting and decorating, which would help save costs.

The Treasurer suggested deferring the decision on flooring until the work was progressing as the floor may be of different levels. This was agreed.

It was agreed that a grant be applied for from the Shropshire Community fund to pay for water heaters and heating in the toilets.

Due to busy hall commitments Beryl and Kim requested that the work not take place during September. This to be discussed with the builder.

b. Table Trolley – it was decided by the committee that the table trolley would be put on hold until further funds were available.

c. Trestle Tables - correspondence between Catherine Humphreys and Christine Page was read out, along with the relevant passages from prior minutes. The Chairman asked the committee for any comments. Beryl Palmer observed that the old wooden tables were no longer safe for use under health and safety guidelines. The matter was considered closed.

2. **Flicks Funding**

Kim Smith explained to the committee that a bid was being considered to Awards For All for a grant of £5,000, which should cover the cost of the projection and sound equipment, including the VAT. There was no requirement for any matched funding, although bids that did include matched funds were looked upon more favourably. Therefore, Kim suggested that 10% of the funds could be raised from the projected income of future Flicks and Arts Alive. Specifically, Kim suggested that we hold Food & Flicks again next year that could raise £500 and that we heavily promote the next Arts Alive to raise as much as possible.

Flicks and Arts Alive are two of the major contributors to the hall funds. It was

noted, therefore, that funds would be extremely tight with the reconstruction of the toilets, which would use up almost all the current free cash, and with the use of the projected income from the next Flicks and Arts Alive to raise funds to support the bid for the grant for equipment. Nonetheless, it was agreed that both these opportunities should be taken.

The Treasurer proposed that the grant be applied for and Food & Flicks be held next year to help raise matched funding. Seconded by Beryl Palmer. Carried unanimously.

3. **Proposal to hold Discussion Groups**

Michael Macturk suggested that discussion groups could be held in the hall on various topical subjects, such as neighbourhood watch, alternative energy, freecycle. This was welcomed by the committee and it was agreed that the talks could be made into a social event with a bar.

Kim noted that the next stage of the Parish Plan process would take place in October and this could be included as a discussion group and social event in the hall.

4. **Permanent Notice / Advertising Board**

Jane Kent explained that as part of the WI BBQ held last week-end in the hall that a notice / advertising board was put up displaying local skills & businesses. Jane proposed that this be made a permanent display in the hall. Seconded by Becky Whitton. Carried unanimously. Jane will arrange the display.

5. **Any Other Business**

Becky Whitton asked to borrow some hall chairs for her recital in Knighton on 30 August. The committee agreed.

Patrick Cosgrove inherited six gazebos at Well House when they moved in. He wanted to make these available for community use.

6. The next meeting date was set for October, actual date to be decided nearer the time.

The meeting closed at 8.45pm