

**The Redlake Valley Village Hall  
Minutes of Ordinary Committee Meeting  
Held on Wednesday, 24<sup>th</sup> October 2012**

**Present:** Richard Barthram, Ian Campbell, Di Cosgrove, Patrick Cosgrove, Helena Lane, James Middleton, Peter Sherman, Becky Whitton

**Apologies:** Simon Jameson, Christine Rogers, Jim Rogers

**In Attendance:** Beryl Palmer

**1. Minutes of previous meeting:**

These were approved.

**2. Action Points from previous meeting**

The secretary is now placing agendas of future meetings and minutes of the most recent meeting on the village notice board and the Chapel Lawn website as well as bringing along a few spare copies in case members of the public attend.

Discussion by email had proved too complicated to reach a decision about whether to waive hall hire fees or not, so the matter was postponed until this meeting.

JR has ordered the additional six additional tables.

PC has only received one quote for a replacement double-glazed unit, so will pursue this on his return from holiday. **ACTION PC**

PS has instigated the trial on-line booking system for Flicks.

PC submitted a request to the Clun Town Council for financial assistance with the cost of replacing the village notice board and upgrading the lighting for the car park. His email was acknowledged by Beryl Palmer in her position as Town Councillor, and by the Town Council Clerk. Regarding the village hall, Beryl has now incorporated this into an Awards for All grant submission that the Town Council is preparing on behalf of the whole parish – with a deadline of 30<sup>th</sup> November. Regarding the car park lighting, because this is more complicated and will be quite expensive, Beryl advised the committee to begin work immediately on a specification and costs. Then, once she understands the process better following the next Town Council meeting, she will advise those working on it whether to apply in their own right to Awards for All, or to apply independently. If the initial work overruns the current round's deadline, the work will not be lost as an application can be made in the next round. **ACTION BP**

Various lighting possibilities were discussed, and PS agreed to work on a specification, with technical advice from IC. **ACTION PS/IC**

Despite asking quite a few contractors, DC has only received one quotation for an annual in-depth clean of the hall. This quoted £330 for 18 person/hours. The feeling was that 12 person/ hours was sufficient, but the hourly rate was still rather high. DC will seek more quotations once she returns from holiday. **ACTION DC**

PC has commissioned a replacement notice board from Jeremy Jameson at a cost of £951 – the lower of his two quotes, without glass doors.

Heating arrangements. JM will ask Christine Rogers for the instruction booklet for the pellet boiler.

**ACTION JM**

PC has measured under the kitchen counter and feels that there is room for bins to take separated materials for recycling. However, Beryl Palmer pointed that as this would displace the boxes of wine glasses, separate storage requirements would be required for them. Beryl, PC and DC will discuss possibilities later this year.

**ACTIONBP/DC/PC**

JM has secured the wooden storage cupboard with a lock.

PC has cleared the playground of weeds and fallen leaves. JM has tidied some of the hedging and undergrowth around the hall but will wait until all the leaves have fallen before tackling the very overgrown area between the hall and the stream. RB offered his assistance with this job.

**ACTION JM/RB**

CR is mid-way through trying to source additional chairs to match the present ones. The committee agreed the expenditure – preferably for exact matches, but if that proves impossible, for very similar ones that can somehow be distinguished from the others for stacking purposes.

**ACTION CR**

BW still has to seek more quotes for a reflective, roadside village hall sign.

**ACTION BW**

PC mid-way through getting the paperwork to Barclays for reducing the number of signatories from two to one for expenditure of less than £100, and for adding himself to the list of signatories.

**ACTION PC**

### **3. Christmas Party Arrangements (15<sup>th</sup> December)**

DC explained the format of the evening:

- WI to get caterers in @ approx £6 per head
- punch to be available, paid for by raffle tickets
- CR and JR to run bar
- WI to sell tickets

**The following items of entertainment were agreed – to be arranged by VH committee members:**

- songs by the very popular Mudlarks
- Chapel Lawn's "Two Ladies" to entertain the audience "in the best possible taste"
- JM to try to persuade Ivor Deakins to accompany carols with his accordion and maybe play some solo pieces (if not, could Wayne Davies play? PC/DC can provide a piano)
- Bob James to be asked to write and recite a "Review of 2012 in The Redlake Valley" (as it had been greatly missed at the Harvest Festival)

### **4. VILLAGE HALL HIRE FEES – TO WAIVE OR NOT TO WAIVE?**

As agreement on this issue had not been reached by email, PC had met with JR and written a summary of the issues. This was circulated for discussion.

There were three aims behind the suggestion to waive fees:

1. To encourage wider variety of activities that are organised by or open to residents in order to make their lives more enjoyable, interesting, prosperous
2. To acknowledge contribution played by local people in maintaining the hall
3. To assist the finances of local groups

It was felt that the first aim was the one to concentrate on (without ignoring the other two) as groups had not been seeking recognition or reduced funding, therefore discussion should centre around the first. Nervousness was expressed at reducing hall income when as yet unknown expenditure might be required in the not too distant future; also there has been no shortage of ideas for expenditure in recent years. The point was made that hall hire charges were already far cheaper than other venues, and heat and electricity were now available at no charge. It was also thought that a two-tier system, with people/organisations approved or not approved might prove contentious or even discriminatory in the legal sense, and on occasions tricky for the Bookings Secretary to manage.

In the end, the consensus was not to waive hall hire fees. Nevertheless, the aim was unanimously endorsed, and after much further discussion, it was agreed that there might be other ways achieving it.

PC agreed to ask JR to work with him on contacting people or organisations who run courses and other open events, and mounting an open evening early in 2013 to show the hall off. If they are persuaded to run events here, those events can be promoted to the local community, which might go a long way to achieving the aim of widening the range of activities.

**ACTION PC**

**(as an aside, it was agreed that the level of reserves needs to be revisited in the not too distant future)**

## **5. AOB**

PC asked about the use of gift aid for items such as the donation to the hall's 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration. A discussion started that will be continued at a future meeting.

RB raised the question of considering the MPLC umbrella licence for public screenings of films. There was little enthusiasm for this as the names of films to be shown cannot be stated on publicity, and the Flicks brand was highly valued as an important marketing tool.

## **Date and time of next meeting**

Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> December at 7.00 pm.

