

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE HALLS COMMITTEE held on Tuesday 19 November 2013 in the Parish Room, Village Hall, South Darenth at 7.30 pm.

PRESENT: Cllr Dawn Mitchell (Chairman)
Cllrs Ian Blackamore, Adair Lewis, Christine Page, ,
Brian Lelliot, Mike Crook

IN ATTENDANCE: Heather Rohard, Parish Clerk,

26 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Received from Cllrs Terry Moyle & Eric Wilson and Barbara Bradley

27 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

28 MINUTES

The Minutes of the last meeting were confirmed and signed as a true record.

29 MATTERS ARISING

Wedding enquiry with Fireworks on New Year's Eve 2014:

No further action needed as the enquirer has not pursued a booking after receiving feed back from the Committee at the last meeting

Frosting to Jubilee Hall glass doors: Works in hand.

30 HIRE RATES 2014/15

The list of hire rates were reviewed bearing in mind the current rate of inflation (2.4%) and steep rises in energy prices which have been well publicised. Members also bore in mind the popularity of the Halls and their function as Community venues.

The Local Organisations discount was thought to have been agreed in previous years as decreasing to 15% from 25%. However, in view of the current financial climate, which is putting pressure on volunteer and not for profit groups, and bearing in mind the contribution made to the local community it was felt that 25% discount should be kept and not reduced.

It was noted that a new contract is due to be drawn up with Riverside Preschool

A query arose regarding the Foot Clinic's status as a commercial venture. The Committee directed that Commercial rates should apply.

A copy of the amended rates are attached.

ACTION: Clerk to inform all Hirers of Price increases and liaise with Riverside

31 UNDER STAGE STORAGE ACCESS

A 3rd quote was needed before possible refurbishment of the Stage front could be considered.

32 MAINTENANCE

The Clerk reported on agreed maintenance undertaken since the last meeting and items for consideration.

Village Hall wood floor; the new cleaning contractors had expressed concerns that the floor was not sealed properly and warned that stains could develop which would be very difficult & expensive to remove. Pending a decision on this Cleansense have withheld routine polishing of the floor, with the Clerk's consent, so as not to cause a build up of polish which would hinder suggested possible works.

When the floor was rejuvenated in the summer it had proved more work than anticipated with Floor Team Company advising that a further 2 coats of lacquer should be applied. Members felt this work would be prudent and approved the £295 cost to have this work completed during the Christmas holidays. This will become an Annual Maintenance expense.

Sevenoaks District Council recycling manager had asked permission for another paper bank to be installed in the car park but was confident that little more room would be needed by re-positioning the current array of bottle banks. New signage for the area was also promised. Resolved that the Paper bank may be installed with care.

Car parking lines have worn away and quotes are needed to consider at the next meeting.

Feed pipe under the radiator to the left of the rear fire doors in the Village Hall looks bowed additional clips to hold in place had been arranged for as part of ongoing upkeep works however it was felt that a plumber should be asked for his opinion on its safety first.

ACTION: Clerk to arrange floor works, liaise with SDC, obtain quotes

33 KITCHEN WINDOW

One of the kitchen windows in the Village Hall had been vandalised by stones being thrown at it and a quote to replace for approx. £340 was approved.

Quotes were requested for fitting grilles or shutters for future security.

ACTION: Clerk to arrange works and quotes

34 CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS

The Clerk requested a budget to purchase a Christmas Tree and decorations for the newly decorated Lobby. A budget of £100 was agreed.

ACTION: Clerk to purchase

35 BUDGET EXPENDITURE FOR HALLS 2014/15

A budget will be drawn up for consideration by the Parish Council in January.

ACTION: Clerk to reschedule with Parish Council

36 DATE OF NEXT COMMITTEE

21st January 2014

37 PLANNING

Due to a deadline for comments before the next Parish Council meeting, voting members considered the application:

SE/13/03233/LBCALT

Building 25 The Salle
Horton Kirby Paper Mills
Horton Road
South Darenth
Internal and external alterations and refurbishment.

OBJECTION

Commented: Notice that another office space has been added to previous planning application was 7 now 8 Comments from that occasion still stand; Concerns with parking, congestion, noise and litter.

The meeting ended at 9.43pm

Heather Rohard
Clerk to Council

Chairman:

Date: