

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE HALLS COMMITTEE held on
Tuesday 18th March 2014 in the Parish Room, Village Hall, South Darenth at 7.30
pm.**

PRESENT: Cllr Dawn Mitchell (Chairman)
Cllrs Ian Blackamore, Terry Moyle, Eric Wilson, Adair Lewis
Brian Lelliot, Mike Crook

IN ATTENDANCE: Heather Rohard, Parish Clerk,

50 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Received from Cllr Page

51 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Mitchell declared a pecuniary interest in item

52 MINUTES

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

53 MATTERS ARISING

Under Stage Storage Cupboards

Work had been completed but Brian reported that one of the cupboards (no 4) was slightly warped; Clerk and Brian to look at. NB This was immediately rectified by fitting more bolts to keep the door in place.

Rates recovery

Clerk to progress this.

54 MAINTENANCE MATTERS

The Clerk reported on maintenance that had taken place and items that needed attention.

The committee accepted the Quote from Alan Mitchell in respect of repairs to the flat roof of £80 and Painting outside doors to keep weather proofed of £120

It was suggested that a higher budget for the Clerk be requested from the full Parish Council in order that regular maintenance items such as these can be dealt with as needed and then reported back to the Committee. NB this was subsequently set at £250 at the Parish Council meeting 7th April 2014.

Mike reported that the Jubilee Hall floor was damp; the building is still waiting to be signed off by the Architects.

ACTION: Clerk to obtain Quotes for painting the Jubilee Hall and meet with Architect

55 CHRISTMAS DAY BALLOT

The Committee ruled that the first booking should be honoured as in line with any other day; it was not necessary to offer a ballot as with New Year's Eve.

56 SHUTTERS VILLAGE HALL REAR WINDOWS

Mesh grilles and shutter quotes were reviewed ranging between £1972 + VAT (mesh grilles) to £3260 + VAT for roller shutters. As the cost for replacing broken panes amounted to £350 approximately, it was agreed that this should be revisited in 6 month's time to see if further vandalism had occurred.

ACTION: Clerk to add to Agenda 23rd Sept 2014

57 CAR PARK LINES

It had been suggested that car parking lines be introduced to the Village Hall Car park however, only 8 spaces could be marked out and often more cars, with careful parking, can be accommodated. Members agreed that lines should not be introduced.

58 EMERGENCY LIGHTING AND OUTSIDE LIGHT

Quote for installing a new outside light between the Parish Office and Parish Room of £150 + VAT was approved

2 Emergency lights needed to be replaced and the cost of £260 + VAT was approved

ACTION: Clerk to arrange works

59 REGULAR HIRERS

Foot Clinic previously requested that the commercial rate not be applied to this service as it is subsidised and supported by Age Concern.

Cllr Page had looked into this further and whilst the service was listed on Age Concern's website it was understood the charity no longer subsidises this clinic. The Committee therefore agreed, that as a profit making business and not directly for the benefit of a charity, commercial rates should apply.

ACTION: Clerk to inform Foot Clinic practitioner

Kent Food Events (previously known as Country Markets/Farmers Markets) have historically (since 2012) paid for the time advertised as being open to the public (9am - 1pm) however the set up and clear up time of an hour before and after the Market had not been charged.

The Commercial rate had also not been applied historically and the Clerk had discussed the business status of the enterprise with Michele Ellis several times in the last year. Ms Ellis was also invited to attend the meeting or send a written evidence of being a Social Enterprise or other not-for-profit organisation.

In the absence of either the Committee assumed that Kent Food Events is a business venture and that Commercial rates should apply. Also that the time taken to set up and clear away should be charged for in line with all other hall hirers. (8am to 2pm)

ACTION: Clerk to write to Kent Food Events organiser Michele Ellis

60 DATE OF NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

20th May 2014 NB changed to 13th May due to Annual Parish Meeting

61 PLANNING

SE/11/02232/FUL

South Darenth Gospel Hall, New Road

South Darenth

Demolish existing entrance and erection of new entrance and lobby including 2 WCs and Store. Internal alterations to form larger kitchen

NO OBJECTIONS

Meeting ended at 8.40pm

Heather Rohard

Clerk to the Council

Chairman

Date