BRANDESTON VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

Minutes for meeting on 30th July 2019 7.30pm

Present:- Sue Thurlow, Mary Ketley, Karren Piper, Cara Duffy, Paul Baker, Jane Mitchell, Michael Cousens, Ruth Garrett

Apologies:- Sandra Roberts, Claire Burgess, Terry Robinson, Kathy Churchill

Minutes of 7th May 2019 approved

No updates re decisions made by email since the last meeting

TREASURERS REPORT - Karren Piper (written report to follow, to attach to minutes). Meanwhile, in brief,

Bank accounts - Cara can now log in to internet banking Current account £14,970 (without July income)

Maintenance account £23,189.

Main expenditure this year - £2,300 on zip wire electrics shutters (kitchen) fire safety certificates

We do have a third account, which is the Tennis Club account, currently £3,389. (please see item below re Tennis Club)

MAINTENANCE REPORT - Terry Robinson sent apologies, but also a detailed maintenance report which members received prior to the meeting. (Attached)

See report for details of repairs generally, including detailed cost. The quote for the curtain rail for the large window is £300, or £450 for a superior rail (inclusive vat). The decision was taken to purchase the superior one. Does this include closing mechanism?

MK TO CHECK WITH TERRY

Mobile phone for card reader. The members discussed this at some length. Views ranged from we don't need this, to could we get a pay as you go, and there was no consensus on how this all worked - for example if we have wi-fi why do we need this? Michael offered his

smart phone as of next week when he was replacing it. The general view was we don't want to pay for a mobile telephone plan for the sake of using it to take card payments, although it was acknowledged that we did take quite a few payments by card both at the fete and at the Dunwich ynamo.

CARA TO FOLLOW THS UP WITH DARYLL
KARREN TO FOLLOW UP COST OF HALL WI-FI AS LAST BILL WAS
£140.

Barbecue. Terry's comments on his report noted. After general discussion it was decided to adopt Terry's proposal, that is, if a barbecue was required it could be rented. There was no appetite for purchase.

In relation to the comments made in the maintenance report re sand in the tray of the barbecue and silver foil,

CARA WILL CHECK RE SAND

FURTHER POINTS RE MAINTENANCE:-

Jane - we need a check for general wear and tear on kitchen equipment and facilities generally, and Terry was going to do this?

MK TO CHASE

ALSO - grant of £800 for new bark for the play area - well done! This is coming and will need volunteers to spread it. A village email will go out.

HALL BOOKINGS REPORT - Cara Duffy. It is on its way, but will be similar to last year, despite a lot of competition. Hacheston Village Hall is good, Dennington Village Hall has had an update, Kingfisher is hiring out for various groups. Jane suggested prices should be reviewed, but Cara is of the view that given the competition and the price structure we have, we cannot put them up. That was generally agreed. Cara made the point that she is always looking and checking and will review as appropriate. Consideration was given to further promotion - Sue suggested 'Suffolk Community", Karren suggested 'About Fram'.

Sue suggested this should be on the website and Cara made the point that the website needs looking at

CARA TO CONTACT DARYLL RE THIS

Jane made the point that we could do with someone who had knowledge of IT on the committee and it was agreed that social media was the way forward but we do need help with that.

ALL MEMBERS TO PUT OUT FEELERS FOR SOMEONE WHO IS IT SAVVY

FETE REVIEW

Fete raised circa £5,333.19 (to be shared with Church) and with some monies still coming in, ie bric a brac, Mary gave £20 to Paul from an after sale and is still trying to sell privately some more of the better items that were left over. BVH funds from fete £2666.60 so far.

Discussion of the email from Nick Haywood re. having the fete every other year and in the non-fete year to ask each household to contribute £50. The point was made that Nick himself contributed a lot of effort to the setting up and so on, and this was a serious thought from him. However, the committee unanimously thought that it isn't just about money, but a social event that brings together the village - and that is true of all events, they should be for as many people in the village as possible, whether or not they make money.

There was discussion, however, around the fact that it does seem to be the same people and it seems difficult to get new villagers or younger people involved. MK - could we put a notice round beforehand inviting people to become involved. ST - or a personal approach? It was agreed we do need to explore how to involve more people. It was reported back that an approach to two people to help with the fete received the response that they would help but don't want to be just told what to do - leading to a discussion about needing to involve people not just to help but to contribute ideas and be allowed to run with them. It can be hard to let go when a lot of work has gone into the fete for years and successfully but new blood is needed. Going forward it was suggested that an email would be sent round inviting everyone who was involved with the fete, and all those who would be interested in becoming involved in village life to a get together, a thank you and a let's go forward.

AGREED - 7th September, 12noon to 2.30 - drinks and nibbles, Tuk Tuk rides.

SUE TO DRAFT INVITE

FUNDRAISING REVIEW (other than Fete)

Daryll has written a review of Fete and Dunwich Dynamo (attached)

Dunwich Dynamo raised £986.97. This is slightly less than last year, but lots of non-consumables left for next year. Also costs higher than last year ie portable wc's (£200), gas urns (£234). However, a good effort by lots of people (30-40 villagers involved, with setting up, serving, clearing up). Lots of praise for the team who organized this!

Coffee mornings continue to be a good fundraiser, and provide a social focus for the village.

People with a Passion talks bring in a steady income. Daryll continues to organize these.

Ink Festival and Eastern Angles raised £277.47 and £238.68 respectively. The Easter Egg hunt raised £232.24

£5932 Fund raising total this year to date, down about £2,000 because one fundraiser had to be cancelled for lack of support and we have not had an open gardens this year which raised £1,100 but we still have events to come.:-

8th September - Autumn walk and breakfast - Karren is organising, with help 13th October - Horkey - lunch. It was agreed games, and Paul suggested a beetle drive - Karen will organise games. Suggestions for lunch were autumnal based - the vegetarian one could be rice (wild and brown so no need to rinse/strain) and a chickpea and butternut squash stew, with perhaps the same but a meat stew for carnivores

Then apple and pear crumble and ice cream. Volunteers nearer the time.

26th October Quiz night

7th December Christmas Fair

14th December Norwich Coach trip

20th December Christmas Panto

Passion talks start again in November

Jane made the point that if we need to maintain fundraising perhaps we need a new, large event.

To be considered next meeting.

CHARITY COMMISSION DOCUMENT - Mary Ketley

This is now complete and in a folder for the village hall. Thanks must go to Terry, Cara, and Claire for all their work on this as well.

Jane asked if it would be a standing minutes to review annually. Yes, and Mary has offered to undertake this after AGM each year.

Michael then said he had found a discrepancy in the Risk Assessment and contract for hire, in relation to hot drinks in the hall when children are present. Mary accepts this was an oversight. She will arrange to delete from risk assessment as obviously it would be a nonsense to not have hot drinks if children are present in the hall - breakfast would be a poor affair!

MICHAEL TO SEND MARY ANYTHING ELSE HE FINDS ASAP. MARY TO AMEND AND PLACE IN HALL, COPY TO ALL.

AOB

Jane:- Tennis Club. Kathy, Helen, Caroline and she will revive and run this and report back to committee. (n.b. this is the third bank account, see Treasurer's Report above).

Paul:- recycling. Consider a collection point at the village hall for what cannot be recycled through domestic recycling. The Parish council are looking at this. There is a company called Terra-Cycle. General discussion on what can be recycled, what is actually done with it, and where bins could be placed.

PAUL TO REPORT BACK AND THIS WILL BE AN AGENDA ITEM AT THE NEXT MEETING.

Village signs, a la Easton. The Parish Council are seeking funding.

Michael:- what do we do with the money that is raised - where are we going with this - do we need to consider putting more into the village in some way? Sue - up to two years ago we ran at a loss, which may explain why it is good to have a reserve. Jane: I joined to spend the money on the village and then became treasurer and didn't think it should all be spent and now I am not the treasurer I am thinking it should be! The Charity Commission said many such organizations never have a reserve. General discussion. Sue reminded us we have £23k in maintenance and £14k in current. It was generally felt that what was needed was a balance, some in reserve, which means we can maintain the building and surrounds, pay our way for fundraising and consider projects. Not everything needs to make money, but prudent spending will preserve reserves to allow this

AGREED; AN ITEM FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

Cara:- soap dispensers for the WC's please. General agreement

Sue: Film Club. There are new leaders and she has been asked to meet with them - Susannah Roberts and Chris McArthur. It would appear that the film club has not had the proper licenses. The suggestion now is £5 pa to be a member, then £5 entrance for each film. They will want us to sponsor them. She will have more details after the meeting. Michael asked if there is a government body encouraging this? Sue - no. But lots of villages have them. Ruth stated that at Earl Soham the audience sit at tables and can have a drink. General discussion supported the idea that we could offer the film club access to drinks at cost as a way of supporting them. All financial support

would have to be carefully monitored and subject to the club appointing a treasurer and reports back.

SUE TO MEET AND REPORT BACK

NEXT MEETING - Monday 16th September

Close meeting 9.35

.