

Brandeston Village Hall

Committee meeting - 9th June 2021

Present: Sue Thurlow - Chair
Cara Duffy
Jan Baldwin
Sandra Arnold
Karen Piper
Michael Cousens
Terry Robinson
Mary Ketley

Apologies: Kathy Churchill
Paul Baker

1 Minutes of last meeting approved

2 Karen reported on the financial position

Current account	£16,176.22
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Maintenance	£12,768.08
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Tennis	£3,109.31
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TOTAL	£32,053.61
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LESS a transfer to Church funds being their share of the plant sale proceeds.

The BT account is now closed. Karen explained that she cannot stop the direct debit without something to say that the account is closed, Terry offered to speak to Fram Broadband to get something in writing.

Anglian Water is now charging £44 pcm - presumably this increase is because they presume the hall is opened now. Terry reminds us that Essex and Suffolk will put their bill up now as well.

We are up to date on bills, save the transfer to Church funds as noted above.

Karen also stated that the breakfast bap event went well - it was a glorious morning - and raised £94 profit.

3 - Maintenance report from Terry

Before Terry's report, Sue and Cara confirmed they had got a list of snagging re the new kitchen and it is helpful to have feedback on how it was to use.

- Fram Broadband is now installed. To use it will be necessary to login to join.

- On inspection, the round wooden tables on the terrace area outside the hall could do with replacing. A couple of the bench seats are pretty rotten. However, a table would cost £300 to replace. He considers that we could move the benches which are near the zip wire up to the terrace, but this would reduce the seating by half. Sue and Cara have also looked at this. A suggestion is that the 'zip wire' tables are moved to the pétanque area and the pétanque tables to the terrace. Apparently Richard Mitson Woods would help to move them with a trailer when he is back from holiday.

AGREED

-The brick barbecue is unusable. The bottom tray has rusted through and the rack is corroded. They will cost between £45/50 to replace from John Lewis (although if they don't have them may be forced to purchase from Amazon - cries of horror from the floor....)

AGREED

- weeding and spraying - Cara found a reputable person whose main occupation is professional spraying. He has been to look at the level of work required and has estimated circa £60 a time, and it will need doing three times per annum. The first session has been looked for tomorrow afternoon. The gates to the village hall grounds will be closed at 3.30pm and he will spray the playground first so it will be dry first. He will spray everything - the car park, terrace, round the zip wires, the tennis court and playground.

- Sue stated that Paul had sent a message that he will do the trimming and mowing. There were comments that this was a lot to take on, he already does a lot, perhaps we need to look at this again?

- The kitchen (also see above at end of financial report). Scott Robinson is coming back to go through the snagging list; Cara asks for Karen's notes about the use of the kitchen from the breakfast bap event.

- Our electricity contact runs out in September - please see Terry's previous email with regard to using Utility Aid to advise.

AGREED THAT THIS IS TO BE PLACED ON THE AGENDA FOR THE MEETING IN AUGUST/EARLY SEPTEMBER

4 - Hall bookings report from Cara

- Pilates is back on Tuesday evenings, down from two classes a week to one
- Mothers and Toddlers started on the 28th May and run on Friday mornings. It looks like they are a superb team. They had a big clear out of their toys and equipment, reducing their required storage, which was necessary as they had more or less taken over the storage cupboard. They held a jumble sale of the surplus.
- There have been several enquiries and five private bookings made. Saxstead Ballet School have expressed an interest in running a class in the hall and Cara is having a meeting with them.
- Coffee morning s planning to re start after the 21st June depending on position re covid then.
- Tennis Club - Cara has met with Katie Tassel about re starting the Tennis Club. Katie's husband Guy was a founding member of the tennis club. Katie is starting 'cardio tennis' classes on the court, 8.45 - 10 am Thursday and Fridays. It is agreed she can have 4 weeks rent-free, and if it proves successful, she will pay the hire charge for the court. Although that is a commercial venture, it could lead to interest in re starting the tennis club, with such activities as a 'club night'.
- Fees - Cara suggests that these need reviewing, not now, but maybe in the Autumn
- AGREED - PUT REVIEW OF HIRE FEES ON THE AGENDA FOR SEPTEMBER

5 - FUNDRAISING

- Breakfast Bap - (see above at end of financial report)

- Village fete - sadly little response from the email or leaflet drop: Sue has received a total of four responses, three offers of small tents and three pledges. There is another meeting next week and we will discuss further then. There was concern that it may have to be delayed, depending on whether the 21st June ending of covid restrictions is delayed, which is now a distinct possibility. Jan stated that she would not be in the village for the fete but she intends to give a pledge. Sue reminded the meeting of the emails re the Mayor of Ipswich opening the set. Is this agreed?

AGREED THAT THE MAYOR SHOULD BE FORMALLY ASKED.
SUE WILL DEAL WITH THIS

- Michael - report on barbecue on the 26th June. The committee for this has not met recently so this is his personal comment. At the moment we can have thirty people, and he has eight so far. If the government delay the removal of restrictions for a fortnight after the 21st June and their advice is not to fully open up until July he thinks we should still go ahead. Sue asks for his reasoning on this - it is meant to be a big celebration on re opening; Michael states that we do not need to make a definite decision now, wait until Monday 14th and the government announcement, but. In any event his vote would be to go ahead.
- Jan - agrees sensible to wait until 14th before deciding
- Karen - thinks people will want to follow guidelines and if the barbecue is a celebration on the lifting of restrictions and fully opening the hall it would be best to do so.
- Terry - agreed, although he knows it is a pain.
- Michael - okay, but he doesn't like being messed about by creeps in government. In terms of the event, he has put a notice up by the Cretingham Bell. - is it a good idea to put a flyer in the houses in Cretingham? It doesn't have a village hall.
- Cara - if we do Cretingham we need to do Framsdén - Michael says it is on the field so we can have many people. They will need to preorder and pay in advance.
- Sue - has contacts in Framsdén (from the pétanque) and there are some cretingham people on our village email list anyway.
- Jan - thinks it would be nice to invite them but if we get 100 people or so we will need more helpers, need a team really.
- Terry - he is happy to barbecue, do the bar, take tickets, whatever.
- Cutlery, crockery, glasses - general discussion resulted in agreement for paper plates, bamboo cutlery and paper cups. Mary suggested taking a leaf out of Starbucks, write peoples names on the paper cup

they get their first, free drink in, and tell them to keep it as they will need it to buy another drink.

- Michael - he has got red wine, has a white in mind and will buy lager, beer and soft drinks.

AGREED - WAIT UNTIL NEXT MONDAY FOR THE GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCEMENT TO FINALISE DATE

6. INSURANCE RENEWAL

- everyone has seen email, but needs ratifying

AGREED

7 - A O B

- Sue - she has been chair of the committee now for 8 years and she will not be standing for chair again next year. She will, if the committee wishes, stay on the committee for a further year after that, but will then be stepping down completely. This will be effective from the February AGM

NEXT MEETING MONDAY 9th AUGUST