

Minutes of the Birdham Village Hall Committee Meeting held on July 12th 2016

Meeting commenced 7.35

Present

Mike Thomas, Betty Geary, Marie Geary, Brian Wheeler, Wendy Pitty, Fiona Thomas, Alan Drew, Jan Rees, Ian Divers, Sandy Divers

Apologies

Marion Barker, Ray Nye, Mike Wells.

Matters Arising

New kettles and teaspoons have been purchased.

Chairman's Report

A few issues to be discussed under A.O.B.

Treasurer's Report

The current account stands at £4303.00. The new fridge freezer, costing £318.00, has to be deducted and around £1,000 in income for June and July added. The Gold account stands at £5,083.37. There is also £15,000 held by Scottish Widows.

Mike said that he was planning to do a six month cash flow review from January to June. This would give us a picture of the current financial situation.

Secretary's Report

Nothing to report

Parish Council

Gordon explained that a questionnaire had been circularised around the parish giving 4 options for playing field equipment. The deadline for those returns had just expired. These would not be linked to housing development.

A.O.B

- Ian volunteered to talk to Paul about the website, which is currently not showing up-to-date information. If uncomplicated he would be prepared to help with that. Mike confirmed that applications for the hire of the Hall were on there.
- Could everyone note the following dates
Quiz Night 23rd July
Race Night 20th August
Film "Walk in the Woods" September 29th
Film October 27th
Film November 24th
- Brian raised the issue of a poster in the Hall prohibiting photographs. (It was accidentally left by a party and taken down after the meeting).
- Jan reported that we are now on lease 8 with the Scouts but getting very near the end. Our solicitor retires next month so the VH does not want the expense of hiring another one. Mike said that he and Jan have been dealing with final issues with Jonathan's help. The final lease draft will go to everyone soon.
- A grant for a package of broadband, router and telephone may be available from West Sussex County Council. Elizabeth Hamilton, Chair of the District Council and a Birdham Parish Councillor, may be able to support us with this. There might also be a possibility of a 50/50 funding with the PC.
- Portsmouth Water is now Castle Water and we are paying them by direct debit.
- Mike explained that the old fridge freezer leaked water over the floor so a new one had to be bought. Cost £318.00 and £15 to take the old one away.
- Mike said he had renewed the subscription to AIRS (Action in Rural Sussex).

- A problem with Southern Electric meant that Mike returned from holiday to be threatened with the Hall being cut off. Despite a registration for direct debit having been sent, an error in their administration meant it had not been activated. Mike paid with his own money and complained. He at least got his credit card charge refunded. He reminded everyone that we are tied in with SSE for 3 years.
- Brian mentioned that the film boards on the main road are too small. Jan and Mike would investigate options.
- Brian asked if some sort of display could show vacant Hall hire slots. This could be put up in the foyer and Ian said that it could also go on the website.
- Brian said that the soft chairs did not look good and the foldaway ones were rather hard to sit on. Marie pointed out that they were really for pulling up to the tables. Mike said that he had asked David Siggs for 50 new chairs under the terms of the 106 agreements.
- Betty said she was owed money from the dancing group for very young children. The classes appeared to have stopped. She also said that the election money was due.
- Sandy wondered whether news of events could be passed to the user groups.

Meeting finished at 8.40 Next meeting 11th October 2016

* Jan mentioned, after the closure of the meeting, that the Scouts would need to liaise with the Parish Clerk to define the boundary of the Scouts' new land (currently land owned by the VH). The VH would set up this meeting and, of course, be present. There would have to be a permanent demarcation of that boundary so it didn't move into PC land.