

HERNE & BROOMFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the meeting of Herne & Broomfield Parish Council Community Centre Committee held at Wootton Room, Herne Mill, on Thursday 26th February 2015 at 7.30pm, for the purpose of transacting the following business.

Present: Cllr Davis, Cllr Blatherwick, Cllr Day, Cllr Rafferty, Mabel Wright, Ann Berry and Linda White.

- 01/15** Apologies for absence received from Cllr Robert Jones.
- 02/15** The minutes of the meeting held on 4th September 201 were agreed as a correct record.
- 03/15** Declarations of interests and requests for dispensations. Cllr Rafferty on 12/15.
- 04/15** Matters Arising. None

Public adjournment

The meeting will be adjourned to allow members of the public to speak about items on the agenda.

Name and address to be given

None in attendance

- 05/15 To look at Income & Expenditure to date for hall.** The clerk reported that to date Income from hall hire was £7,728.60 and Expenditure £5,892.77. Almost £2,000 profit for the year. Bookings were going well.
- 06/15 To discuss progress for the new building.** The clerk reported that more investigation work had been done in the form of a soakage test. Cllr Blatherwick explained that this is basically a hole in the ground which is filled with water and the contractors then time how long it takes for the water to drain away. It is hoped that some work can be done to kick start the building regulations. There has also been an acoustic survey carried out. The reason that these two have been carried out is due to the impact on costs as the tenderers were not sure what was going to be required therefore could not give accurate figures. Apart from that nothing further had been done.
- 07/15 To discuss funding and fundraising for the new build.** The clerk reported a set back with regard to grant applications. It had been hoped to access at least £500,000 from Viridor but from 1st April they are changing their criteria and will only give a maximum of £250,000 to any one application. Other sources of income/grants were being looked at and it is hoped that there will be some donations from the solar farms in the area and the developers of the land next to the Huntsman & Horn have agreed to donate £5000 towards the new Community Centre. It may be possible to access additional funding from new developments in the future. Mabel Wright and Ann Berry informed the committee that the Flower Arranging Demonstration that they had organised had raised £700. Cllr Davis congratulated them on doing so well and thanked them for all their hard work. Other fundraising events were discussed another quiz will be organised by Mabel and Ann in the Autumn. There will be also be another Race night organised for the autumn. It might be possible to apply

for the Peoples Millions later in the year. It is hoped to have another Bingo night after the elections in May. Linda reported that the 100 club was building slowly and the first draw would take place at the April Parish Council meeting, the clerk will send out 100 club forms to the schools and ask if they will send out to parents.

08/15 To discuss the VAT issues re becoming a Charity. Following a meeting with VAT consultants it looks like the best way forward is to continue as we are, making sure the Option to Tax is carried forward to the new building and that would mean any VAT paid on the new building etc would be reclaimable. If hall is registered as a charity or trust they would not be able to reclaim the VAT. This would also be the case if the hall became a charity after being built.

09/15 Report from Hall Manager Alan King reported that bookings were up by over 80% on this time last year. His biggest problem now is accommodating people as there are so few spaces available. Alan told members that he was currently working a lot more hours than he was contracted to do. A large proportion of the hours worked was dealing with inquiries, phone calls and emails. It was thought that an on line calendar showing availability would be helpful, Cllr Rafferty will set this up. It was also suggested that a wall planner showing when the hall is booked could be put up in the hall. Storage is also an issue and it might be necessary to have a shed outside to put excess chairs etc.

Alan reported that the roof has failed but the repair that has been carried out will hold for about 3 years and is easily repairable, it has been covered with plastic sheeting and battened to hold it in place. It was agreed to recommend to full council an increase of 50p per hour for hall hire from April 2015.

10/15 To discuss carrying out some remedial work on the existing hall. In order to tidy up the outside it has been suggested that the exterior be given a coat of paint where the main doors are and the end facing the car park.. The paint was purchased in order that the Community Pay back people would do this, but it didn't happen. Cllr Rafferty said a working party could do this and Ann Berry offered her services with a roller. This could be done when the weather improves a bit. Some regular maintenance to the outside areas to keep them tidy and stop them from overgrowing, needs to be done. Perhaps during the summer the gloss paint areas inside could be sanded down to stop them shedding bits of paint everywhere and then be repainted and also the walls given a coat of emulsion. A new light is required outside the main entrance; an LED would be cheaper to run at a cost of £68.50 to install.

11/15 To discuss managers hours and the cleaning of the hall. Currently Alan is doing a lot more hours than he is paid for, after having discussion with him it is suggested that he does 25 hours per month and his wife is willing to do the cleaning, two hours per week nine per month. Members agreed to recommend these changes to full council.

12/15 To discuss the purchase of road stone for St Martin's View. The clerk reported she had received complaints from hall users about the state of the potholes in St Martin's View and the residents have requested help with the cost of the road stone to fill the holes. Cllr Rafferty had been unable to obtain a cost for supply the road stone. Members agreed in principle to contribute and would recommend to full council.

13/15 Members' reports and clerks correspondence. A call has been received

from Kavanagh Cinema they are having an A1 display board at the entrance for advertising and thought we might like to advertise Community Centre. Adverts are 9”x7” and cost £7pw. 6 month agreement £182 + VAT. Can be paid in 3 payments. They will give 4 cinema tickets every month for the 6 month period. In view of the lack of hall space currently it was decided not to take up the offer for advertising.

Ann Berry mentioned one of the radio stations was doing a ‘ Roving Mike’ this week which gives organisations a chance to raise the profile of what they are doing. She would try to get them to give Cllr Davis a call. The clerk mentioned the Community Hall Conference as there are still two places available. Cllr Rafferty will have the Health & Safety documents ready for the next meeting.

Meeting closed 9.10pm