



Worth Matravers Village Hall

Trustees Meeting

Monday 15th June 2020 at 6pm

Minutes taken at the meeting

Present: Nick Viney, Rob Lobley, Rick Gould, Jack Ross, John Hynan, Claire Barnes, Maggie Hardy, Claude Bonfanti

1. Apologies – Dawn Cosh, Charles O'Reilly. Also absent Ceri Vosper (Parish Council)

2. Minutes of last meeting

Jack requested that future minutes are distributed and uploaded with corrections

Matters arising

- Disposal of garden chairs in the car park store. Keep until centenary and then sell them on ebay
- AV & PowerPoint issue not seemingly resolved; projection image doesn't fit to screen. **Claude and Jack** to meet and try to sort next week.
- Adjustments were made to job description for Garden Maintenance role. **Nick to revise** and forward to Claire for distribution with minutes. Rick mentioned that the overgrown ivy in the Substation enclosure was the SSB's responsibility.
- Welcome to newcomers. Nick handed out an example letter to encourage people to join Village Directory and requested **feedback from Trustees.** (draft letter attached)
- Sales of plants and bric a brac and donation to MyTime. It was agreed that Sheila and David's contribution to the fete over the years should be recognised with some sort of gift (consider flowers from Bloom and Wild?). PC should chip in (action **NV to talk to Ceri**). **Nick** will give some further thought to the gift. There is a tea set that did not sell, and **Rick** offered to get a valuation.

3. Use of Hall as Dorset Community Rest Centre

Rob explained that he had spoken to the council. Expectations are it might be used as a resting place for distressed local residents due to(eg) fire or flood, and perhaps needed for only a few hours occupancy. **Rob** suggested that he will have a further discussion to find out the details of any documentation that requires signature and if there would be any payments coming should the Hall be used. Rick suggested to put a time limit on the usage. **John to check on insurance matters.**

4. Work on the School House

This has been on hold because of lockdown. If Kerry is amenable, the two projects requiring

attention (bathroom and roof) could be progressed and other maintenance needs should be assessed in the process. **Rick** to check out options and get some quotes.

5. Finance

COVID19 Grant

The committee noted that the grant from Dorset Council of £10,000 from the Retail Hospitality and Leisure Fund had been received.

The Committee discussed the email from CR and his comment:

“Whilst it is great news that we have received £10,000 I would like to ask whether we truly need all of it? Ultimately we are all going to have to pay for this pandemic through increased taxation and I am not certain that we should take more than we need for our essential survival. Nor should we be arbiters of where any surplus is distributed. I think that we should decide what is really required and return any surplus to the government.”

After discussion, the Committee agreed that it was in the best interest of the Trust to retain the grant in order to support the objectives of the Trust on the grounds that:

- The grant was intended to assist organisations such as the Trust continue to provide services to their communities during and in the aftermath of the current epidemic. It was noted that other village halls in the area had also applied and received the grant;
- On a reasonable basis it was likely that the Trust’s income from lettings in 2020 would be unlikely to show much increase from the May figure of £471 compared to 2019 £4,690. For 2021 there was currently no certainty of what sort of demand there would be for the Hall.
- Given expectation of a significant recession there was no certainty that the tenant of the School House would be able to continue to pay rent; and in the interim she may have to move out during significant repairs with loss of rent and/or potentially a commitment of the Trust to provide her with accommodation;
- As discussed under Minute 4, the School House needed significant work both internally and to the roof. RG had indicated a possible cost for the total project of £20,000, given the work needed to the roof;
- Assuming that the estimate above was correct and that the result for the year was a breakeven then even including the full amount of the grant the Trust’s cash balance would fall from the present figure of approximately £60,000 to £40,000.

The position could be reviewed at a later date, although it was not obvious under the Trust’s

Constitution, how a return of a full or partial amount of the grant monies could be made.

AGM & Committee Meetings

The Committee discussed the Treasurer's comments on this issue and the Charity Commission Guidance and agreed:

- Committee Meetings – That in view of the current COVID19 guidance future meetings could be held by video conference, email or telephone; and
- AGM – the Trust's AGM on the 14 April 2020 had been cancelled, although it was noted that the Annual Accounts and Treasurer's Reports had been posted on the Trust's website. It was agreed that the Chairman's Report (**action Nick**) should be completed and added to the financial information. In order that members could review and approve the accounts and reports these documents would be circulated by email and members would be asked to signify their approval of the accounts and reports.

6. Future plans.

It was agreed that Trustees need to consider hospitality guidelines before opening the Hall again.

7. AOB

Jack commented that there was a Centenary section on website. It was suggested a "thank you" to Bob Diffey was appropriate, as he had done a great job on the radar (**action Nick**). **John** to send link to Jack for additional content which could be added.

It was acknowledged that Jack spends an inordinate amount of time sending eBlasts and uploading information on to the website. Trustees wanted to make known their appreciation.

Further content linked to MyTime fundraising might appear in local media. It was suggested by Maggie that the MyTime info should be forwarded to the Swanage Forum Newsletter for publication. (**Action Jack**).

It was recognized that Yvonne, Gaenor and other members of the Plant team had done a splendid job of clearing and reorganising the substantial stock of trays and pots re-assigning the old composters for storage. Jack mentioned that Yvonne needed to top up her supply of Cuprinol Sage to finish their treatment and needs another composter for storage. Yvonne has also asked to plant some Primroses around the edges of the lawn. This was agreed as they would have finished flowering by the time events happened and the marquee needs to be erected. It was agreed that Yvonne could go ahead and purchase these small value items without further reference to the Trustees.

Next meeting 28th July 6pm