

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
FRITHELSTOCK VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

02ND OCTOBER 2014 AT 7.30PM

Present: Adrian Green (Chairperson), Mel Goldman (Vice-Chair), Mackie Poole, Roger Hunkin, Peter Hutchings, Gale Riddell, Derek Raymont, Michael Stokes

In attendance: Lizzy Hunkin (Secretary), Sylvia Debnam (Treasurer), Jean Short (Bookings Secretary), Maureen Poole (Deputy Bookings Secretary)

1. Apologies: Steve Beer, Arthur Poole, Sheila Weeks, Terry Warrington, Marcelle Paton-Smith.

2. Approval of prior Minutes.

The minutes of the meeting of 20 March 2014, having been circulated were taken as read and signed.

3. Matters arising from Minutes of 20th March 2014.

a. It was agreed that the 'No Dogs' sign which had been removed from the rear car park, due to tattiness, need not be replaced unless necessary. Removing the grass from the car park will in all likelihood deter dogs.

b. Solar panels/ heating efficiency.

No progress to date. The Committee will await Marcelle's report, following the '361 Green Doors' tour she and Robert Daniels attended at Woolsery Village Hall.

c. Car park wall.

A response (and quote) is anticipated from Devon Stone Walling but as several quotes are required, further enquiries are to be made.

d. Damp problem.

This is an ongoing issue in the Village Hall which needs to be resolved. Maureen unearthed a further damp problem in the corridor between the hall and the kitchen. It was suggested that this particular issue may be to do with the pipes in the corridor and that following various social events, the linoleum in that area should be lifted and the problem investigated. Adrian suggested that it would be worth employing a professional surveyor to look over the village hall with a view to resolving all the minor issues before they become major ones. Chunk suggested using a Dry Master to combat any condensation. A Dry Master costs roughly £250.00 and labour would be roughly £150.00.

Maureen suggested using bathroom paint to stop the damp.

It was also suggested that Robert Daniels may like to add any ideas he may have on how to combat the damp issue.

4. A further change to the constitutional document.

Torrige District Council has introduced a new grant scheme, the 'Village Hall Improvement Fund' which offers grants of between £5000 to £10,000 for items such as structural defects, adaptations for disabled persons and improvement of facilities. In order for Frithelstock Village Hall to be eligible, the village hall constitution needs to follow the format of the Charity Commission. As the new constitution would not change fundamentally how the village hall operates, it was agreed that Adrian should work with the Charity Commission to draw up the new constitution. Once drawn up, the new constitution would be published on the village website and posted on the village notice board for all to see.

5. Update on kitchen refurbishment.

The range cooker, dishwasher and cupboards are in place. Some new crockery has also been purchased. Gareth is to install a sturdy shelf for the microwave. Some painting and redecorating is required, as a result of the installations but this will wait until the damp has been dealt with.

No further improvements were suggested.

6. Progress report on the rear car park improvements.

Peter Hutchings reported that he has accumulated about 70 ton of stone at Clements Hill for resurfacing the rear car park. He is just waiting until the contracting business slows down so that he has the work force to remove the stone the the village hall.

7. Additional external Notice Board.

Adrian has erected a new notice board outside the village hall to advertise regular activities, such as Circuits and Pilates, WI, etc. Michael Short will send Adrian a list of these regular activities. Meanwhile, Jag Signs will produce laminated signs to go on the board. These should be more visible to passers by.

Regarding the regular clash between the Pilates class and Parish Council meetings, Adrian will liaise between Eileen and Mackie to resolve this issue. It was agreed by all that if the meeting could be prepared for well in advance then there should be no need to disrupt the pilates class.

8. Best Kept Village Competition - 2014 comments related to Hall.

The Village did not do so well in the competition this year. Following the competition organisers comments, Adrian has thrown away both the old trolley and the old BBQ

which were behind the hall. As for the comment on litter, none was spotted by Adrian.

Adrian has said that prior to entering the competition next year, he will look for any potential issues in and around the Village Hall, in advance of the judging.

9. Trophy Cabinet.

Gale brought in a Runners Up trophy which was presented for skittles. It was agreed that this should be displayed in the skittle alley.

Once again, the 'Best Kept Village' plaque has been knocked off its hanging in the village hall. Mackie has it at home until it can be replaced. It was agreed that a better site should be found for it, perhaps in the proposed trophy cabinet.

Mel suggested that the blocked up window between the hall and the skittle alley (next to the stage) could be unblocked and that a glass fronted cabinet could be made to fit the window frame with skittle trophies being displayed one side and other trophies on the other. Adrian will speak to Gareth regarding the cost of a made-to-measure trophy cabinet.

10. Other Projected Expenditure.

a. Marquee. The existing marquee, about 9 years old, needs replacing. Adrian informed the committee that as there had been no end-of-summer sales, he had looked into the cost of a new one. A 6m x 12m Gala tent with ratchet ties would cost £950.00 + VAT. It was discussed whether the Parish Council should buy the marquee and donate it to the village hall, with the village hall covering the remainder of the cost; alternatively the Parish Council could own the tent. Mackie did not want the Parish Council to own the tent and so it was agreed that the Parish Council should buy it and donate it to the Village Hall. The Playing Field Committee will be charged for using the marquee. Mark Goldman is further investigating the cost.

b. Electric Hand Driers. Adrian suggested replacing the paper towels in the bathrooms with electric hand driers, as they are more environmentally friendly. Having researched the topic, Adrian said that of the three options, hand towels are the least environmentally friendly, followed by hot air driers with the cold air driers being the most preferred.

11. Update on Flashing Speed Sign.

Mackie said that the Parish Council has made a decision to have some flashing speed signs. The Village Hall Management committee agreed to support this and could help by providing the electrical connection. There are various options for the signs, including solar panel powered, amongst others. All are expensive. Mike Stokes is in the process of speaking to suppliers.

12. Entertainments Committee items.

It has been proposed that on the 31st October 2014 there will be a traditional family style Hallowe'en party, at the village hall. More details to follow. The village hall has also been booked provisionally for Friday 19th December 2014 for the Family Fun Night. The stage would need to be erected on the morning of the 19th.

13. Financial Information from Treasurer.

The current balance of the Village Hall account is £9335.66. Sylvia commented that because of the large amount of credit on the electric bill, payments for this have been reduced. If, following Christmas, there is still a large balance in hand, these payments will be further reduced.

14. Any other business.

As of next week, beginning 6th October 2014, Mark and Mel Goldman will no longer be living in Frithelstock. There were no objections raised to Mel remaining in post as Vice-Chair.

15. Date of next meeting.

The date of the next committee meeting was proposed for 26th March, 2015 and the village hall has been booked provisionally.