

MINUTES OF HOTHFIELD VILLAGE HALL
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND COMMITTEE MEETING
MONDAY 27th APRIL 2009

1. Present: John Collins, Sharon, Kenny Marden, Shirley Horn, John Nicholls,

2. Absent: Peter Patten, Sue Holloway, Chris Rogers

John C told the meeting that Sue Holloway has resigned with immediate effect. That Peter Patten has also told John he is resigning but will continue until Chris Rogers returns from holiday. Phil Holloway has also written to John C resigning but also because of not attending three meetings without giving good reason he would no longer be eligible to continue on the Committee.

The meeting was preceded by the election of a Committee for 2009 and all the previous members were re-elected.

Voting then took place of the officers for the coming year.

John C was nominated as Chairman and seconded and duly elected.

Sharon has agreed to stand as the Booking Clerk on a temporary basis and was proposed by John C and seconded.

Chris has agreed to stand as Treasurer and was nominated by John C and seconded by John N.

John N has agreed to stand as Vice Chairman on a temporary basis and was duly elected.

3. Minutes: Minutes for the 6th April 2009 agreed and signed

4. Matters Arising:

John C has sent a letter to the person responsible for making the replacement of lights possible.

John Coles has agreed that his field can be used for the dog show but John C has not been able to speak to Sheila any further about the arrangements.

Trees - hopefully Peter attended the Parish Council meeting and spoke to the meeting about the Committee's decision regarding the trees in front of the hall.

It is confirmed that the paint in the back room is suitable to do the lobby.

5. Chairman's Report:

John C explains he has not seen anyone from the local nursery. Evergreen trees are £2.75 each in a pot or £1.50 straight from the ground. They would be around 5feet and we would need 40 of them and we would be given 15% discount. It would be best straight out of the ground and would be good time to have them in the autumn when it is likely the work will take place. Still not clear who is actually going to pay for them

6. Treasurer's report:

No report available

7. Booking Clerk:

Sharon is getting to grips with the diary and confirms that there are no new bookings, although there is a wedding due on the 27th June. It seems there is no more opportunity for extensions for events.

8. Fund Raising:

Jumble sale is going ahead on the 8th August 2009 when Sharon has agreed to do a BBQ and Kenny is looking after a Tombola and there will be a raffle tea and coffee.

Quiz Night has been advertised in the Village Directory and Sharon will organise some tickets which will be on sale in the Post Office. Tickets to be £5.00 and there will be catering for 50 people. Some of the food the Committee had in the fridge and stores seems to have disappeared and a check will be needed on what is still available before items are purchased.

The number of tickets sold will determine the numbers needed to be catered for and the numbers will need to be checked before food is bought.

Chris and John will contact the first Race Night organiser to discuss details for an event.

9. Any Other Business

Bob Rivers talked to the meeting about the refurbishment of the toilets and work to the flat roof. He explained the Committee needs to provide a proper specification and quotation from a builder and discussion followed about the specification required. A counter with sinks sunk into it and new toilet bowls and new tops would be required and the Committee need to tell Roger Boorman of the requirements. Sharon explained that there had been a lot of complaints previously because there is nowhere to change a baby and this should be considered. Decided it would be left with Roger and Chris, and Chris will report back to the next Committee meeting.

Grants are available but a grant from Ashford Borough Council may be unlikely because they are supporting the new playground with £10,000 this year, although Bob will still apply to them and there are others to approach. There may be requests for separate grants for the roof and toilets and it will depend on the work involved. There was discussion about some way of preventing anyone getting on to the roof and the possible use of a slanting 'fence' with barbed wire or even to pitch a roof on the flat roof so the balls come down naturally, an option which may be cost effective. Bob suggests that this be made part of the specification. There was also discussion about a structure situated away from the porch a panel to block/baffle the noise from the hall when the doors are open which they often are due to smokers leaving the hall to smoke.

Charity Commission - changes to the scheme

John was in possession of a further draft, copies of which are circulated with these minutes, of the proposed changes to the scheme. Bob spoke of the changes and explained that Chris intended the Committee to consider these before the next meeting when they would be voted on.

The new scheme would state there would be minimum of 4 elected trustees and maximum of 11 and provision for the Committee to co-opt trustees at the AGM or ordinary or special meetings. A quorum for a meeting would be suggested as four trustees as if only six trustees were appointed a third of that figure, two trustees would be too few to conduct an effective meeting.

Bob has received a communication from Ashford Borough Council about a new way of advertising the work of groups in the area which he has not been able to look into. Shirley volunteers to investigate this for the next meeting.

Discussion about the youth club and that at the present it is running from the mobile youth van parked at the Children's Bluebell Centre. It was well attended on the first date and it is hoped that numbers attending over the next 2-3 months will establish a need which will in turn enable money to be put in to a permanent youth project. With such funding it will be run by three qualified youth workers which will mean that if one is on holiday there will still be two on duty. Suggestion that one of them could attend a meeting of the Committee.

The only night free for the Hall bookings for a regular event is Friday.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.20 p.m. and the next meeting is arranged for Monday 1st June 2009 at 7.00 p.m.