

**MINUTES FROM**  
**GREAT EASTON VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**23<sup>rd</sup> NOVEMBER 2022 AT 10.00AM**

1. Present: Tim Smith/Alice Murdock/Vikki Halliday/Louisa Feltham
2. Apologies: Margaret Stamp and Sally Armstrong

3. Matters Arising:

- **Garden Update: Neighbours' Tree (TS)/Garden Bench (KM)**

Tim hasn't heard from the Parish Council regarding cutting back the tree.

**Action: Tim will investigate further and discuss with John Boulter**

**Garden Bench:** KM reported that Wealdon Benches supplied the WI Bench on the park. **Action: KM to investigate other bench suppliers**

- **Frosting to Exterior Wall – Update (Item 4)**

- **Stage-blocks and Storage (Item 5)**

- **Toilet Refurbishment Update (Item 6)**

- **Lighting in the bar area (c/f TS)**

- **Archive Room – letter to Kate Hill (TS)**

Tim has emailed Kate regarding use of the Archive Room

4. **Finance**

Current balance in the account, £28,380.04 including £2,949.58 WOTWS funds. Total £30,806.50. Petty cash £1,790.46.

There is also £600.00 from the 100 Club collection

The Playground Equipment payment is still in the account, which will go towards the garden bench.

The second payment for the toilet refurb is now outstanding. This is likely to have increased due to additional, unforeseen expenditure.

Vikki has spoken with the Co-op Bank about Charity Banking. This is following a £60 annual charge over the last year from HSBC, for banking costs. The nearest Co-Op branch is in Leicester. Changing billing can be problematic and there is no guarantee the Co-Op won't introduce charges at some point in the future. It was agreed that we would continue with HSBC for the time being.

Tim has made enquiries regarding Starling, who might be an option in future and worth watching. **c/f to future meeting**

Vikki reported that expenditure last month had risen sharply, and bills are steadily increasing. Kay suggested we might want to consider putting up hire charges as a lot of Halls are starting to introduce increases

**c/f to March 2023 and review**

Tim reported that the SMART metre isn't working properly, but he's taking regular readings to provide a comparison.

Recognising Willy Boyd has done a good job in the Hall, there was discussion about some of the issues around finding good trades people to undertake improvements and repairs.

**Action: Consider using the Notice Board as an advertising hub for those contractors who have done repairs and improvements in the Village Hall**

**5. Stone Frosting Repairs**

The repairs have finally been completed by Willy Boyd who has done a good job.

Alice queried if the gutter might be blocked.

**Action: Alice to check guttering**

**6. Staging and Storage Options for GELT/H&S**

GELT regard the stage blocks stored outside the hall to be safe. KM has contacted Lucy Walsh (H&S) and is awaiting a response. (c/f KM)

The blocks will be installed in the hall prior to the Panto in January.

Louisa had nothing to report on new staging and hasn't been able to investigate further. Mark Howson has come up with a number of options, including one company who can do a demo at the hall. Purchasing the new staging will be dependent on available funds after essential repairs.

**Action: c/f Louisa to identify staging options**

**TS - Consider inviting the supplier to come and do a demo**

**7. Toilet Refurb**

Making good progress. Not clear when the work will be finished, but this is not impacting on events as there are other toilets available.

**Action: Buy a new mirror for the small loo.**

**8. Insurance Inventory SA/AM c/f**

This has been completed by Sally and Alice; written up and available.

During the process, it was identified space is available under the Village Hall stage to store items, providing they are stored in plastic boxes on wheels, to prevent rodent damage/damp

**9. (Gazebo SA/AM c/f to next Spring)**

**10. Water Butts SA c/f**

## **11.AOB**

**Key safe** – is now installed and Tim has the box of spare keys.

**Village Hall History:** Tim asked whether there is any history on the VH or if there is any documentation in Archive. **Action: further enquiries to be made.**

**Kay - Warm Space for Winter update.** Kay reported that Good Companions will be using the VH during January and February on alternate Thursday lunchtimes (12.00-2.00) to provide soup and a pudding for anyone who would like to drop-in.

It was raised that there are no large saucepans available in the VH kitchen.

**Action: Alice to investigate and purchase some large catering saucepans.**

**Tim – HIVE c/f**

**Alice - Date for putting up the Christmas decorations at the VH – 29<sup>th</sup> November 2pm**

**100 Club** – now have 4 spare numbers to be sold **Action All**

### **Louisa - Stage**

Louisa enquired whether there are funds available to improve the stage area, including new stage curtains, back drops and various other improvements needed on the stage and back-stage.

Funds are unavailable for these improvements at present and until we have a better understanding of energy increases we can't commit to any decorative refurbishment. GELT might want to start some fund-raising activities towards the VH stage improvements.

### **Fund Raisers**

- Discussion about possible events for next year.
- Alice is doing a quiz for the Church in March, but could perhaps do a VH Quiz for September.
- Andy Murdock could do a photo exhibition with tea and cake or a gallery evening with cheese and wine
- Make 5 Craft Stalls with tea and cake
- A Coronation Tea Party in May
- Re-launch the Christmas Tree Festival at Church and Crafts/Refreshments in the VH

Meeting ended 11.20

