

GREAT EASTON VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD WEDNESDAY 24TH MAY 2023

1. **Present/Apologies**

Present: Tim Smith, Vikki Halliday, Sally Armstrong, Lorna Bryant, Kay Mitchell, Margaret Stamp, Louisa Feltham

Apologies: Alice Murdock

Meeting started 10.00

2. **Matters Arising:**

Garden Update: Neighbours' Tree (TS)

Tim is due to call in today to see Kate and discuss the tree

If there's a need for pruning, Tim can borrow high-loppers to address the problem.

Garden Bench (KM)

Kay previously submitted details of a company that produces environmentally-friendly benches made from recycled products.

These examples are very similar to those already located within the VH garden.

Committee felt this could be an option, given we already have recycled benches in place, however it was felt a wooden bench should also be priced.

c/f KM

Stage-blocks and Storage (Item 4)

3. **Finance (VH)**

Insurance has been paid - £811.04.

Our current total is £15,219.00, factoring in 100 Club monies and expenditures. Tim advised our rental income is just covering our regular outgoings. At the moment we are making more income from private rentals instead of regular groups.

The Hive system - there have been some reports around heating being on high during warm, sunny days. At other times the Hive system didn't appear to be active as the Hall was cold. Tim stated that he is varying the balance during the summer and winter months and still experimenting with temperatures and thermostat.

4. **Staging and Storage Options – (LF)**

Louisa is in discussion with Terry from Mainstage, who we have used before for sound and lighting systems. He is investigating large stage 'blocks' to provide an extension to the stage. Louisa reported that we will possibly need three of these blocks across the front, with fold out

supporting legs. It would be helpful if the blocks could be stored under the stage.

Louisa is unclear at the moment how the blocks might attach to the existing stage, however larger blocks are easier to handle than numerous, smaller units, and easier to store.

The quote from MainStage is £2971.80.

c/f LF

NB: Discussion with Mark Howson who suggested contacting Rocky Road in Corby, who may be able to offer another option. He has used them previously and can recommend.

5. Fund Raising 2023

Christmas Fair/Christmas Tree Festival (KM/LB)

At the meeting with the Church group, a plan was made for this to take place on 9th/10th December,.

The date cannot be changed as the dates for Christmas worship are fixed.

We are awaiting a date for the next joint meeting later in the summer. As the VH will be organising a Christmas Craft Sale, we will need to make contact with local crafters, starting with Claire, to check on their interest/availability on that date.

Action: TS To contact Claire/All members to enquire of local crafters

Quiz Night - The Big Banger - scheduled for 3rd November.
FayJohnson-Smith has tentatively agreed to do the catering.

Andy Murdock Photo Exhibition 9th/10th September

Refreshments will be available - need volunteers to make cakes/biscuits.

Open Gardens/Midsummer Sunday (KM)

Open Gardens: WOTWS are investigating event insurance with the Parish Council. The event may be covered by the PC insurance, however a risk assessment will be required. **c/f**

Midsummer Sunday: Plans going ahead for the summer event on Sunday 25th June at the VH. There will be refreshments, Pimms, plants, raffle, tombola, bran tub. Volunteers needed.

Treasure Trail (LF/AM) c/f to Open Gardens

6. AOB

Gazebo (SA/AM) **c/f**

Water Butts (SA)

Alice advised WOTWS have very kindly agreed to fund a water butt for the pipe by the Meeting Room window. This will be useful for watering the tubs and troughs at that end of the garden and hopefully this will be in place by June.

Catering Saucepans (AM)

These were ordered from Kitchencraft via Hayley Smith. Tim confirmed the order is being processed.

VH History (KM/AM/Ena) c/f

Guttering (AM)

Sally and Alice managed to check the guttering at the front but found no obvious signs of any blockage. Will need to be monitored.

Toilet Windows (LB/MS)

The toilet show an outline but are also afford privacy.

Coronation Celebrations

Alice reported this was celebrated with a number of donated craft/art projects in the window art exhibition entitled 'Flowers for the King'.

The Big Lunch on Sunday 7th May was a great success with a long stretch of tables along the Hall, filled with around 70-80 people, who brought their own food to enjoy with others. Free Prosecco was provided by the PC.

New Tables

Two tall tables have been donated by Leanne, following her wedding celebration at the Hall last year. They could provide a useful addition to the bar area, either indoors or outdoors.

Hanging Baskets

Baskets funded by Crafternoon are in place.

Volunteer Recruitment

The PC is planning a Recruitment Drive along with a pop-up pub on Friday 15th September. This will be an opportunity for various village organisations to advertise and talk about what they do in the hope of getting some more volunteers or committee members on board. This will be advertised with a display at the Midsummer Sunday event.

Sally's Salary

Sally asked for an increase in salary from £120-£150 per month

Agreed by the Committee

Vacuum Cleaner may need a service (**Action SA**)

7 Date of Next Meeting 19th July 2023 at 10.00 am

Meeting ended 10.52