

Withiel Playing Fields Association

**Minutes for the
Withiel Playing Fields Association
held in Withiel Village Hall at 7.30 pm on
Monday 16th December 2019**

Meeting opened with the Chairman, Tony Liddicoat, in the Chair

1. Apologies: Anne Martyn, Tessa Cubitt, Margaret Warren, Claire Davies and Roy Dunstan
2. Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 18th November 2019 – **Agreed**
3. Declaration of interest: None Declared
4. Chairman's report.

The Chairman advised the meeting that new Village Hall hire rates had been published in the Withiel News and Views magazine. There was unfortunately a small error in the notification, which implied lower rates for locals, which should have read Local Affiliates to the Village Hall. **The Chairman will get this corrected in the next edition.**

The Chairman also advised the meeting that a discussion had taken place with Paul Bowden (retired Architect) and David Harris, the builder of the hall, to look at the art of the possible with the proposed redevelopment of the toilets and kitchen. Liam Smith Laing a Chef had also been consulted on ideas for the kitchen.

The conclusion reached, due to funding considerations and impact on Hall events, is that the redevelopment should take place in two stages. The toilets will be done first, with the Ladies and Gents swapping round and the new Gents incorporating a relocated Disabled toilet, which will have improved access via the entrance hall and be upgraded to current regulations.

The meeting agreed in principal to proceed with this proposal and progress plans and costings to enable a grant application to the St Breock wind farm fund. The closing date for applications is the 14th February 2020.

Paul Bowden has produced some alternate plans for consideration. These were not presented at the meeting, but will be reviewed and a selection made to go forward for bids. One or several of these can then be used to support the grant application.

Action: Stephen/Nigel to organise the selection of plans, obtain quotes and submit grant application.

The Chairman questioned if the stage needed to be up for the Pantomime as he felt this was impacting other users of the Hall. Christine confirmed that this was necessary and that the stage was only left up from Sunday to Tuesday evening and then taken down, although this was a significant task involving the whole cast.

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A point was raised that the Storeroom door had been damaged in the process of moving the staging and further that the Hall had not been left in a tidy state after recent bookings requiring extra work by the Caretaker to tidy the Hall.

Action: Christine to talk to Nigel to resolve issues and come up with a better storage solution for the staging.

As a point of note, it is the duty of Hirers to remove all rubbish from the site after an event.

Action: Nigel to amend Hirer's responsibilities to include a clause advising that an additional charge will be made if the Hall is not left as found.

5. Treasurers Report: As the Treasurer is currently recovering from surgery the report was given by Stephen Horrocks, the Secretary. The balance of the current account as at the latest statement date of 25/11/19 was £2,018.37 and the reserve account £4,394.08.

Known bills not yet paid were:

JM Brewer Boiler service - £108

Repair to entrance outside lights £45

December receipts paid in after statement - £191

NB. The above balance includes a ring fenced grant for £2,000 towards design costs of a major building redevelopment. A letter has been sent requesting a repurposing of this grant to a reduced re-development, but no response has yet been received.

6. Projects

6.1 Heating System

Stephen advised the meeting that he had obtained via Companies House a copy of the latest filed accounts for the heating system installer ECO Trades. Unfortunately this shows that the business is very illiquid, having a substantial overdraft and also a significant Directors loan to the company. There is therefore no money available to make a claim against and the meeting agreed that there was no point in pursuing legal action against the company.

The meeting did raise the point that they would still like to see an effective heating system, as bookings would be affected unless adequate heating could be provided.

Action: Nigel/Stephen to contact Brewers to ascertain the cost of additional radiators for the hall. Also Stephen to see if additional grant money is available for a new air source heat system. Initial estimates given indicate that this would be about £16k

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6.2 Fund Raising Ideas

Several fund raising ideas were put forward, including a dance night and a quiz night.

In light of recent poor attendance at several events, it was suggested that local input be sought as to the type of events that people were interested in.

Action: Stephen to draft short questionnaire to go into the local magazine

6.3 Website

Stephen read out a letter from Simon Coy outlining the history and his proposals for a way forward being proposed to the Withiel Parish Council.

Essentially the Withiel Village Website (WVW), separate from the Parish Council website, will take over responsibility for www.withiel.com and will operate this via a committee of local interested parties. This will initially be funded via S106 grant funding and subsequently by the St Breock Community fund.

7. Any Other Business

7.1 Double paid Bill – Now repaid.

7.2 Bank Mandate update

Action: Stephen Horrocks to complete the bank forms and obtain proof of ID from the proposed new signatories.

7.3 Alcohol License – £15 per session charge to be applied.

Bridget has confirmed that she is happy for a bar to be operated by the Committee at the Flower Show.

7.4 Janet raised the point that books had been taken from the bookshelves in the entrance hall, but had not been returned as required, so the shelves were looking depleted.

Christine offered that she had some books that could be made available if required.

7.5 The Chairman requested that a letter of thanks be set to Meg Horrell for her great work on replacing the Committee Room curtains. Stephen has passed this to Tony to hand to Meg.

8. Date of next meeting Monday 24th February 2020, 7:30pm in the Village Hall.