

COLTON VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting of Tuesday 23rd May 2023

Members present:

John Macmillan (JM) (Chairman): Ricard Monbiot (RM): Fiona O'Brien (FO'B) (Booking Officer): Nigel Parry (NP) (PC rep) (from 19.50 only): Guy Reynolds (GR) (Treasurer).

1. Apologies

Lynne Richardson (LR).

2. Conflicts of interest

None

3. Minutes of previous meetings and matters arising

The minutes of the meeting of 11th April were approved and signed as a true record.

3.1 Coronation volunteers. **JM** reported that there had been an excellent turnout of volunteers on the Monday following the Coronation with about 20 people working on the village hall gardens, the playground and other projects around the village. Lunch had been provided in the village hall paid for out of Parish Council funds left over from the Jubilee and cooked by **LR**. **JM** expressed his thanks for everyone involved.

3.2 Village organisations and the website. **FO'B** reported that all village organisations had been contacted about submitting information for our website and most had replied. She would chase the others. **RM** would prompt the Garden Guild. It was stressed that it was up to the organisations to continue to provide information for their page on the site.

3.3 HS2 grant for solar panels. **GR** said that he had not yet been able to check whether the grant was likely to cover the whole cost of installing solar panels and a battery but would do so [**Action GR**]. **FO'B** said that she understood that a grant received by Abbots Bromley PC had only been for 50% of the cost of the project. **GR** said that he had so far received only one quote for the work of £11,800 but was chasing others [**Action GR**]. There was strong feeling that we could not justify a capital outlay of £6,000 given the expense of recent capital projects and the likely length of time before we recovered the outlay through reduced electricity bills.

4. Treasurers report

GR reported that as at the date of the meeting there was £12,396 in the current account. £4,004 in the contingency reserve and £5,575 in the playground account. The first two months of the financial year were likely to end with small surplus of just over £300. Running costs of the hall were now about £1000 per month. He had not yet looked into the possibility of changing the bank account name to Colton Village Hall but would now do so [**Action GR**]. The year end accounts would be delivered to Alan Toplis, the independent examiner, on Friday of this week [**Action GR**]. He was still waiting for final details of money spent by others for the Coronation which would be reimbursed out of the surplus from the

Jubilee funds, but it looked as though all of the fund had now been spent. **GR** was thanked for his report.

5. Booking officers report

FO'B reported that of the 13 enquiries received since the last meeting 10, including a new caravan club, had been converted into bookings with one more booking still possible depending on church dates. The total value of bookings in the period since 1st April 2022 was now the same as in the previous comparable period, a considerable improvement on the position reported at the last meeting. Bookings were getting back to pre-Covid levels and she was still receiving a good number of enquiries in particular for larger events. No-one had objected to the recent price increases. The two dog clubs had already booked for future years, one up to 2025 and one to 2026. **FO'B** was thanked for he report.

6. AOB

6.1 **JM** reported that Dolphina would be away for a large part of July and Ann Martin had kindly agreed to do the cleaning in her absence.

6.2 **JM** reported that he had contacted Chillee Builders for a quote for the external repairs but they had not yet got back to him. He would chase Martin Upton who had previously promised to have a look at what was needed but hadn't yet done so [**Action JM**]. He was concerned that although the work clearly needed doing it was too small to interest builders but too much for our volunteers to do themselves. **GR** said that he would ask his builders for a quote [**Action GR**].

7. Date of next meeting

27th July 2023 at 19.30

The meeting closed at 20.10.

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Signed as a true record

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Dated