

COLTON VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Minutes of Committee Meeting held in the Village Hall on Thursday, 23
February 2017 at 7.30

Present

Richard Monbiot (Chair) (RM)
Marie Havelock (MH)
Alan Freeman (AF)
Sonia Jenkinson (SJ)

Apologies – Kerry Ball, Ian Jones, John Macmillan, Polly Macmillan, Tony Winter and David Cook.

In attendance – Ann Nunn (AN) and Katherine Staples (KS)

MINUTES

The Minutes of the Committee meeting held on 26 January were approved with one slight amendment and signed for filing. AN agreed to forward a copy to Duncan Shortland so that they could be published on the website.

Matters Arising

A plaque to commemorate the work carried out by the late Pete Jones had been bought (unfortunately not available at the meeting for the Committee to see), and RM would enquire of Ruth as to the type of event she would prefer for the plaque to be installed.

Chair's Report

In view of the small number of Committee members that were able to attend, RM proposed that the Agenda be curtailed as much as it could to keep the meeting as short as possible. RM proposed that KS be elected as a Trustee, which was seconded by SJ and AF and carried unanimously. Welcome aboard Kate. Although KS had mentioned she might be interested in the position of Treasurer, she had decided that it was not for her so finding a new Treasurer was increasingly urgent. It was proposed that the post be advertised in the Parish Magazine on a regular basis until the position had been filled, and it would also be brought up at the Public Meeting on 22 March.

Tony Winter had expressed to RM his disappointment that the Auction planned in March had been cancelled. After much discussion, it was agreed that, although Auctions were desirable as Village Social activities, they had been losing their attraction. A lot of work and man hours were involved, and the amount raised at the last Auction was not considered sufficient to justify another in the current format. However, the matter would be raised at the Public Meeting on 22 March and, if anyone were prepared to organise such an event in the Autumn then the Committee would not raise any objection and would provide as much help as possible.

Murder Mystery Evening

At this point, Bill Douthwaite arrived who had been invited by RM to talk the Committee through the details of a Murder Mystery Evening. Briefly, tables ideally of 12 (minimum number 6) would consist of 8-10 people. Refreshments should be supplied (he suggested nibbles on the table, and jacket potatoes, pizzas, or anything that could be served quickly and eaten in 20 minutes or so). A

catering “team” would be required as well as Actors. The price of £10 per person for the tickets would include the food, but drinks and glasses should be brought by those attending. Timescale was normally 7.15 to 8.30 with a break, continuing at 9 or 9.15 with a finish about 9.45. The raffle could then be drawn whilst awaiting the results and the event could be expected to finish no later than 10.30pm.

It was agreed the tickets would advertise that the proceeds would be distributed equally between the Village Hall and the Playground Group to encourage as many people as possible to participate. Hopefully, members of each Village Organisation would take at least one table of 10 or 12. KS volunteered to prepare an advertisement and the event would be advertised in the Parish Magazine and elsewhere. The date of 12 May was agreed.

Retirement of Ann Martin

RM reminded the Committee that Ann Martin was retiring after many, many years, on 1 April. It was agreed after a brief discussion that she should be bought flowers and given cash to the value of £100. RM would seek advice from Ron Lawrence as to the type of event Ann would want in order for the presentation to be made.

Summer Fair and Open Gardens

This was diaried to take place during the weekend of 24th and 25th June. A Public Meeting was planned for Wednesday 22 March as a determined effort to obtain wide support and participation. It was hoped this would be well attended, and volunteers would come forward to organise events. MH mentioned that the Church would hold a flower festival on the Saturday and that the Church would be open the following day to give more opportunity for visitors to attend. An Agenda for the Public Meeting was being prepared by RM and, although MH mentioned that too many obstacles were put in the way when her daughter Mel tried to organise such an event 5 years or so ago, RM was confident that any such opposition would not be allowed to re-surface. A group of volunteers had formed the Steering Group and consisted of MH and her daughter Mel, Polly Macmillan, Georgina (from the Dun Cow) and RM.

Treasurer’s Report

In the absence of a Treasurer, RM circulated the report prepared by Ron Lawrence which indicated for the first time in many years a surplus of funds, notwithstanding that there had been several items bought and work carried out.

The possibility of the purchase of CCTV was discussed after recent vandalism had been reported but no decision made pending enquiries of Ian Jones.

Playground

KS reported that the Playground Group was getting quotes and needed to raise £4000 minimum towards the expected cost of the new playground equipment estimated at £40,000 so as to be able to secure grants. RM agreed to draft a letter for submission to the PC and Lands Trust. If the playground equipment could not be replaced because funds were not available, then the cost of removal and disposal of existing equipment was likely to be £13000.

The work involved in this project is falling on the shoulders of two members. The Public Meeting in March will be used to rekindle the spirit exhibited in the October meeting.

Any Other Business

A table tennis table had been brought back to the Village Hall and it was hoped this would be used by Parishioners once they were made aware of its availability.

Next Meeting

Thursday 30 March 2017.

The meeting closed at 9.30pm.

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Date