

**New Village Hall Project Group Meeting
Thursday 13 April, 2023**

Venue: All Saints Church by kind permission of the PCC

Minutes

Present: *Village Hall Committee / Trustees:* George Brett Reynolds (Chair), Margaret Brett Reynolds, David Skinner, Graham Polson, Graham Able (joint Treasurer), Julie Piggott, John Harrison, Tim Green *Hall Project Advisory Board:* Sophie Trend (co-ordinator), Susie Freeman, Paul Brown, Carol Brown, Tom Mitcheson, Mary Able, Suki Polson, Lindy Green *QS:* Rick Jones

Apologies: *Village Hall Committee / Trustees:* Barbara Clark (joint Treasurer), *Project Advisory Board:* Sue Harrison, Julie Dyson, Susan Neil, Tony Green, Tina Guillory, Sarah Hiner

Minutes & matters arising: The Chair welcomed the meeting and in particular Rick Jones, our Quantity Surveyor. The minutes of the last meeting (dated 24.2.23), previously circulated, were agreed and signed by the Chair. No matters arising.

Building update: The Project Management team (Graham P, Graham A, George BR) reported back on an earlier site meeting also attended by Rick Jones (QS) and Justin Howe (Grocott & Murfit Project Manager). Progress has been very good considering the recent poor weather (currently four days behind schedule) with roof trusses now in place. Rick J. confirmed satisfaction with the standard of work and no untoward issues to raise.

Julie P. reported that the builders had been quiet and largely considerate, but voiced concerns about parking and children accessing recreation facilities. A complaint has also been made regarding photography in a private garden. The latter issue has been dealt with and the number of vehicles should reduce shortly. Suki P. kindly offered to paint and erect clear signs to remind lorry drivers about children using the playground and field (both to remain open).

Finances & Fundraising update: Susie F. has submitted the second stage Sheringham Shoal application (decision May 11th) which includes solar panel and battery, totalling £33,338. The meeting agreed that any items already included in the contract could be removed to increase chances of success. Further opportunities for funding include "recyclingforgoodcauses.org" and "easyfundraising.org.uk" - an online shopping site.

It was also agreed to approach local businesses, large and small, asking for Project sponsorship/funding in the form of buy-a-brick or other, in return for recognition (Graham A. / Sophie T. to organise a draft letter and list of addressees). Mary A. showed the meeting a sample flyer to put through letter boxes and to laminate for holiday home folders. She reported the commemoration book is doing well but another push for donations is needed. George BR to replace the board on the war memorial. Suki has reserved a stall at Wells Carnival. It was felt the EDP might be interested in the story of the village effort and progress.

Publicity, sales and hall usage: Having been tasked to investigate hire costs of local village halls at the last meeting, Carol B. presented her findings, circulating a summary report. Post-pandemic prices are hard to pin down, and like-with-like costs are also difficult to measure (especially in the light of rising fuel prices), but her report usefully outlined the difference between local and commercial rates, children's events and special occasion events, and rates for weekday/weekend or different hall areas, highlighting the website: venues4hire.org. Susie F. reported back on her work regarding the population of Wighton and ideas about how the hall might be used and managed. The meeting thanked Carol and Susie for their very useful research. It was agreed that our hall will have the benefit of easy parking and new facilities.

Any other business: Graham A. to approach the Goldcrest Trust for further transfer of funds. A vote of thanks to Rick Jones for his extremely generous support and help with the project.

Date of next meeting: Tuesday 30th May, 6pm. All Saints Church.

The meeting closed at 1.30pm