

## **New Village Hall Project Group Meeting**

**Tuesday 25th January 2022 6pm**

### **Minutes**

**Present:** *Village Hall Committee:* George Brett-Reynolds (Chair), Margaret Brett-Reynolds, David Skinner, Julie Piggott.

*Hall Project Advisory Board:* Sophie Trend (co-ordinator), Graham Polson, Sarah Hiner, John Harrison, Sue Harrison, Susie Freeman, Graham Able, Mary Able, Tim Green, Lindy Green, Paul Brown, Carol Brown  
*Also present:* Ian Cray

**Apologies:** Barbara Clark (*Village Hall Committee*) Julie Dyson, Susan Polson, Susan Neil, Tony Green, Tina Guillory, Tom Mitcheson (*Advisory Board*).

**Minutes:** The minutes of the last meeting (dated 25.11.21) were agreed and signed by the Chair. In matters arising, a token of thanks was made to Tony Green for his work on the informative Hall for All "Buy-a-Brick" leaflet which has been distributed around the village and displayed in public places.

**Village response:** Graham A. reported a very good response to the "Buy-a-Brick" leaflet. With gift aid on c.£13,500 donated, the total so far is £16,678, plus an additional £78 collected at panto performances. Donor names to be listed in a book. George announced plans to put the second "Hall for All" sign, along with a fundraising "brick-o-(thermo)meter" by the war memorial to encourage more donations. Village feedback (in verbal, email and letter form) has been constructive. A letter from John Lavender (Gibraltar) and emails from Ian Cray (22 High Street) were circulated, having been previously passed to relevant Project Group members for consideration & reply. There was discussion regarding Just Giving (perhaps use later in the process?), QR codes and a card reader (perhaps for Scarecrows?). Also about approaching local companies, eg. supermarkets & wind farm plus fundraising cards for holiday lets.

**Building Subcommittee update:** Graham P. acknowledged that events had moved fast since the last meeting in November 2021. To keep everyone updated, he'd circulated an "end of the year" summary of progress (emailed to Project Group members on 31st December). The meeting thanked him for this useful document. In essence: Holkham has provided a letter of support regarding the tarmac area (lease or land donation tbc at next Holkham trustees meeting) and outline plans submitted to the NNDC Planning Department by G&M before Christmas with an outcome expected on March 9th. If given the go-ahead, hall to be demolished and G&M to start work ten days after this date.

Chris Mooney has submitted a demolition quote, c.5 days at £8,000. Local groups including North Norfolk Railway are interested in having the hall but unfortunately cannot meet the timescale or clearance requirements. The meeting agreed that recycling the hut would be far more preferable than demolition but in the circumstances the latter is the only viable option & Mooney's quote appears fair.

Proposed timetable as follows: Jan 29th Open Morning; Feb 5th "Farewell to the Hut" event; Feb 7th erect fencing for closure; Feb 17th clear-out working party in pm (John & Sue H. to kindly provide storage); Feb 19th sale of hut items (possibly silent auction or buy & clear); Feb 25th Eon to cut off electrics / install new box.

Defibrillator to be transferred to village phone box (date tbc).

**Open Morning:** To be held in the hut from 10am to 12pm on Saturday 29th January. Mary A. to oversee refreshments. Presentation from 11am: Welcome from George BR; Q&A with G&M's Stewart Barnes (Project Manager), Dan Higginbotham (Architect), Graham P. and Graham A. (Wighton Project Group) covering building, design and fundraising/gift aid. Susie F. to explain Amazon Smile. Plans available to inspect, with a proposed timeline, and members of the Project Group present in the hall to explain the project and answer questions. It was recognised that this was an important part of the project process and alerts should be put out on social media in the run-up to the event to encourage a large attendance.

**"Farewell to Hut" event:** Village Hall Committee to organise a dance with live music in the hut from 7.30-11pm on Saturday 5th February with bar (or BYO, depending on ticket sales). Tickets (£6) from Margaret BR. Project Group to help in spreading the word. Open to villagers and local friends of the village & recreation hut. Sophie T. to put details on the Next Door website.

**Date for next meeting:** Next meeting arranged for Wednesday, March 9th at 6pm. Venue tbc.

**The meeting ended at 7.35pm**