

New Village Hall Project Meeting

**Wednesday 21 October 2019
6pm**

Minutes

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

Hall Project Advisory Board: Sophie Trend, Graham Able, Graham Polson, Sarah Hiner, Tony Green, Susan Neil, John Harrison, Susie Freeman, Julie Dyson.

Apologies: Barbara Clark, Julie Piggott (*Village Hall Committee*) Mary Able, Susan Polson, Sue Harrison, Paul & Carol Brown, Tina Guillory (*Advisory Board*).

Minutes: After a welcome by the Chair, the minutes of the last meeting (5.8.19) were agreed and signed with an amendment to Item 2: Funding, relating to the Goldcrest Charitable Trust.

Matters arising: Julie Dyson, on behalf of the Goldcrest Charitable Trust trustees, outlined the conditions underlying the pledge of £100,000 to the Village Hall charity towards the hall project. To summarise:

1. A traditional build, reflecting Norfolk architecture and local vernacular, and in keeping with its place in the heart of a conservation village. [NB. Further to the meeting the trustees confirm they would support a timber-framed building if this was the committee decision].
2. Use of a local builder (from Norfolk/East Anglian region).
3. Funds to be drawn in stage payments as the project progressed with a max of £15,000 to be released prior to staged payments for set-up costs and prelims.

In order to avoid a potential conflict of interest, Julie explained she would step back from close involvement with the project but would be happy to advise if required.

Graham Able and Graham Polson (leading the Building Development Subcommittee), reported back on their positive October meeting with architect, Elena Thatcher of The Other Studio (www.theotherstudio.london) on site in Wighton. Susan Neil also attended. Elena would like to present her design ideas to the Village Hall Committee and Advisory board at the end of November, offering her services on a complimentary basis at this point.

Plans update: Graham Polson and Graham Able updated the meeting on progress, presenting a new floor plan, with input from Elena. The meeting agreed these were on the right lines with some tweaks required, including possibly replacing hinged French windows with sliding doors (due to wind issues), roof lights, windows in store room (high level for security reasons), roof solar panels etc. There was general discussion regarding construction issues and potential local builders including Grocott & Murfit Ltd and Phoenix Build. Heating issues were also discussed, eg. underfloor / ground source etc. Draft images of what the building might look like were circulated, possibly a barn-like structure to reflect Wighton's agricultural heritage. It was agreed that discussion with Holkham regarding the tarmac carpark area to stay on hold for the time being. All present at the meeting agreed the floor plan looked very promising and the meeting thanked Graham and Graham for their work on the project to date.

A potential timetable was outlined. Around seven months needed for planning process, build end possibly 2021. It was agreed that builders should be alerted well in advance.

Any other business: There was some discussion regarding other fund-giving Trusts which might be approached including Coutts and Rothschilds. Sophie and Susie to investigate once architectural plans have been drawn up.

Date for next meeting: Tuesday 26th November at 6pm in the Village Hall.

The meeting ended at 7pm