

New Village Hall Project Meeting

Thursday 31st January 2019

7pm

Minutes

Present:

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

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

Apologies: Barbara Clark, Sandy Hopkinson (*Village Hall Committee*), Susan Polson, Mary Able, Graham Able, Carol Brown, Paul Brown, Neil Dyson.

Minutes & matters arising: After a welcome by the Chair, the minutes of the last meeting (29.11.18) were read and signed. Matters arising focussed on the unfortunate policy change by The Big Lottery where max funding for village hall projects is now limited to around £80,000, with stiff competition for these funds. The meeting agreed that this was a clear set-back.

New Village Hall Plans: Julie Dyson circulated the revised village hall plan, kindly drawn up by her architect at no cost. These incorporated the comments and suggestions made by Committee and Advisory Board members. Build cost now stands at c.£450,000 with kitting-out costs at c.£50,000. Total £500,000. All agreed that this plan looked very good and was along the right lines in terms of layout and cost (although some further tweaks were suggested). The meeting thanked Julie for her efforts and asked her to relay thanks to Dan, her architect.

Further discussion included the reality of raising sufficient funds (no problem with putting together a strong bid and no lack of small-grant funders but one large-grant funder is needed); location of the hall (perhaps relocating the building to the field rather than on current site); and the question of seeking initial advice from NNDC planners. Also the need for a striking project name and logo.

Action points:

- **Possible hall relocation:** Sophie Trend to seek general advice from David Horton Fawkes regarding Warham Reading Room funding and his views on potential Holkham land swap. Also to check Countryside Agency/Doorstep Green covenants.
- **Planners:** Graham Polson to approach NNDC to gauge its general attitude towards a new build and to possible relocation to the field.
- **Project name and logo:** Susan Neil and Tony Green to present logo designs at the next meeting.
- **Funding:** All present agreed to keep an eye out for possible grant funding bodies.

AOB: Thanks to Susan Polson and Margaret Brett-Reynolds for Sunday breakfast (on 27th Jan). Evidence of continued communal use of the hut, alongside welcome fundraising. More breakfasts and other social events are planned.

Date for next meeting: Wednesday 27th February at 7pm in the Village Hall

The meeting ended at 8.15pm