

PIDDINGTON VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (PVHMC) ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 13TH MAY 2014.

MINUTES

Committee present: Lynda Willis (LW, Chair); Chris Weavers (CW, Treasurer); Ken Howard (KH, Secretary); Sally Clark (SC, VH Booking clerk); Marie Claire-Nixon (MCN); Pam Bridgman (PB)

Apologies: Hazel & Andrew Coleman; Martin Brown

Also present were 17 members of Piddington Village (names available on request).

Prior to the meeting opening KH apologised on behalf of the VH architect, Pauline Blackwood, who was to address the meeting re VH updates. Due to ill health she was unable to attend, but information supplied by her would be part of the meeting later.

LW opened the meeting by asking the villagers to draw the four (4) winners for the May 200 Club draw. The winning numbers drawn were: 123; 86; 53; 156.

LW gave the chairman's report for the past 12 months, covering the first year of this new committee. Included in this report was an introduction to each member of the Committee (9 in total), outlining their roles and involvement over the past year. The meeting was also informed that PB, due to personal work commitments, would be standing down from the committee, but she and her husband, Peter, would always be available to help with future functions and activities. LW asked anyone present who would like to join the PVHMC to contact her, as one (1) new member was needed. LW pointed out a young new face on the top table, who everyone knew. This person was doing the Duke of Edinburgh Awards Scheme; one of the many workshops she had to be involved in was working for a charity, which the Village Hall is. She will be involved with the VH Committee in various functions and activities, thus proving her positive involvement with a charity.

CW then gave the treasurer's report, copies being distributed to all persons present, for the financial year 2013/2014. The accounts had been audited by Heather Thomas, and present for inspection were receipts/bank statements and other paperwork should anyone wish to see them. CW explained that he had taken over the task of treasurer in January from Simon McKenzie-Smith, and although Simon had started to change bank accounts to the Co-Operative Bank the actual changeover never took place.

LW explained that the Committee was elected 12 months ago and was due for possible re-election in 2015. However, CW needed to be officially voted on and was proposed by Pam Feltbower, seconded by Morwen Ashton, vote unanimous, elected. Andrew Coleman was proposed by Morwen Ashton and seconded by Lynda Willis, vote unanimous, elected.

KH then outlined the replies and submissions received from the architect.

A copy of a sketch plan was handed to all of perceived ideas for changes that could be made to the VH by way of adding additional rooms, extending the front of house, possibly incorporating a shop, plus other internal alterations. KH explained that any alterations would not be made by the PVHMC but would have to be approved by the village by way of consultations and meetings. The sketch plan produced was just a start for discussion by the village. The idea originally was for the VH to be more of a Village hub, with additional facilities, that would be independent of one another, and a possible full-time cafe/meeting place for use by villagers and those using the facilities. Any new kitchen would be able to produce cooked meals as against just hot snacks, would be available for the village and any people booking the hall for a function. Any material alterations to the hall, big or small, would include the car park surface being renewed. At present the PVHMC Chair (LW), KH and Francesca Darby were part of the working party to carry this matter forward. Clearly we are looking for other villagers to come on board to help, either with professional expertise in a particular field or just with enthusiasm about the project. All ideas and proposals would be put to the village for eventual approval or for non-action.

KH further added that government legislation over the past couple of years had led to major towns and cities having to submit detailed plans on housing/infrastructure etc. This has also involved smaller communities like, parishes, where 2 plans are available: a Neighbourhood Plan or a Community Led Plan. A Neighbourhood Plan could take 2 years to put together and cost anything from £6,000 to £10,000 (with no funding available). This Plan, when approved by Government, is a legal document.

A Community Led Plan seems better suited to Piddington. A booklet was given to all attendees, explaining what this involves. It is basically a village inspired Plan about what people living here wish from their village; it can cover any subject that involves the village, from roads, fields, home care, village hall, transport, village facilities, even whether we would like to have a defibrillator in the village. The Parish Council would be involved, but not leading the exercise, and should there be such a Plan, the Parish Council would, when making decisions, be bound by the Village Plan. There is a small amount of funding available for this and Francesca Darby will be organising a date when a representative from Oxfordshire Rural Community Council (ORCC) will present how/why/and when it will all work. This will be followed by a social occasion when food and drinks will be available (free) and the matter can be discussed in a social setting.

LW then asked for questions from the floor. These included the present VH kitchen and legality of use; the use of equipment in kitchen and insurance of items; how would charitable status of VH be affected if large improvements were made including a shop; costs involved and perceived use of a larger VH; cleaning of a larger premises, present inadequate; noted in accounts no income from marquee 2013/14 – a booking enquiry had not been replied to re hall and use of marquee; are booking forms updated; possible cost of expansion as laid out in sketch plan; could the present hall not be subdivided, thus saving on

building additional space; storage space is urgently needed as hall is cluttered; where would all the extra cars park if the hall was extended and space taken; when is VH doing a Pop Up Pub; can The Pantry Coffee Shop sign over kitchen hatch be removed; above questions were answered mainly by the Chair (LW). Other concerns would be discussed on next agenda of PVHMC meeting in June. Meeting closed 9.10 p.m.

After the meeting it became known that Martin Brown (MB) would have to resign from the PVHMC due to increase in his business workload, he would however try and complete maintenance jobs he had been tasked with.

K. Howard

Secretary.

DRAFT