



# Goring Village Hall

## Minutes of Village Hall Management Committee Meeting (held on Zoom) Wednesday 5 May 2021 at 7.30pm

**Present:** Mike Baker (MB) (Chair), John Barrett (JB), Jack Calder (JC), Phil Davies (PD), Mark Kibble (MK), Bernard Novell (BN), Linda Palmer (LP), Steve Smith (SS).  
NB In minutes: caretaker Paul Carter (PC).

Item		Action
1. Apologies	Bill Jackson (BJ), Bryan Urbick (BU), Roger Wood (RW).	
2. Minutes of last meeting	The minutes were approved and passed for publication on the GVH website.	BN
3. Matters arising	<p>All actions from the previous meeting had been completed apart from the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The tap in the disabled toilet had not yet been repaired, but plumber Harry Denison would do this shortly;</li> <li>- Graham Underwood had been asked to drill the holes in the stage and promised to do it as soon as he had access;</li> <li>- PC had not yet painted black the wooden box used as a step to the stage – LP would ask him to do this;</li> <li>- Most of the work on the garden had been done but some large shrubs still needed to be tied back.</li> </ul>	<p>LP</p> <p>BN</p>
4. Chairman's report	<p>MB welcomed MK to his first committee meeting.</p> <p><u>Covid-19</u> Stage 2 of the government roadmap out of lockdown began on 12 April, and the Hall had been booked by various hirers for activities allowed at that stage, including a children's group, Goring Fellowship and Centurion Running, and also for polling in the 6 May local elections. Only one room could be used and the kitchen remained closed.</p> <p>Many enquiries had been made about the period after 21 June, the final stage 4 of the roadmap. Goring Unplugged had booked the Hall for 25 June and the Jazz Society for 26 June. U3A and the Arts and History societies were keen to restart at that stage. But although stage 4 of the roadmap was described as ending all</p>	

	<p>lockdown legal restrictions, comments by some government ministers and advisers suggested that even if progress on the pandemic remained good, some restrictions might remain in place beyond 21 June. Hirers were therefore being advised that it remained uncertain when it would be possible to resume all normal activities.</p> <p>The Arts Society were planning an event which combined a Zoom meeting and a real meeting. This would require a camera to be set up in the Hall, which they would have to arrange and pay for themselves. But the Hall's PA system could be used for the Zoom meeting if cables were fitted to allow access. MB would discuss this with electrician Colin Silvester.</p>	MB
5. Treasurer's report	<p>SS reported that he had submitted the 2020 accounts to the Charity Commission and updated the Trustees.</p> <p>April was a quiet month with only £694 spent and no income. For the year to date we spent £10,503, of which £7,703 was on equipment and building maintenance (the majority being the heating system repair) and the remainder mainly general running costs. Income for the year to date was £15,963. Almost all of this came from SODC for the Covid-19 business grants and a contribution towards the heating system repairs. We had £38,870 in the bank at 30 April (of which around £4000 was hire fees paid in advance). The Hall was therefore in a strong financial position and we could consider carrying out planned capital expenditures that had been deferred while the Hall was closed for the pandemic.</p>	
6. Environmental project report	<p>PD took the committee through a presentation prepared by RW. It listed the various measures already taken to reduce the Hall's energy demand, from which it appeared that most of the low-hanging fruit had already been plucked.</p> <p>It listed the disadvantages of the current gas heaters in terms of inefficiency, high gas consumption, maintenance costs, noise, space requirements and wasted heat (though BN pointed out that the Heatmaster system had significantly reduced such wastage).</p> <p>Options included 1) better insulation and heat management, 2) a move to carbon neutral electricity and "cleaner" gas, and 3) switching from gas to electric heating. RW would obtain quotes for 2 and 3.</p> <p>A more radical option was replacing the heating system with a ground heat pump. This would cost more than £20k to install, but grants might be available. It would reduce running costs by half, but installation of pipework and radiators would be necessary. Since limited land was available it might be</p>	RW

	<p>necessary to sink a bore hole. JB pointed out that limited thermal capacity was a problem with heat pumps, and some sort of supplementary heating might be required.</p> <p>Another replacement heating option was installation of radiant infra-red heaters in the roof space. This would cost around £10k, for which grants might again be available. Advantages were that it would have low latency, be silent in operation, be maintenance-free, with an expected life of more than 20 years, and have lower running costs than the present system. BN said that infra-red heaters had previously been installed in the Garden Room, but were removed because they were unpopular with hirers. PD said that Blewbury VH had installed heaters of the type being considered. He proposed arranging a visit to obtain the benefit of their experience once current restrictions were relaxed.</p> <p>An additional option to consider was installation of a heat recovery ventilation system. MK explained how this worked. It would not only provide supplementary heating, using otherwise wasted heat, but would improve ventilation and air quality, important where Covid-19 was concerned. It would cost £10-15k to install, but would then be maintenance-free and would operate silently. There were various options for accommodating the unit and the required ducting in the Hall. MK would try and obtain details of other users to get the benefit of their experience.</p> <p>Hydrogen-powered heating appeared to be too far off to consider.</p> <p>BN said that remote control of any new heating system would be a must.</p> <p>MB thanked those involved for all the work done, and it was agreed that the various ideas discussed were well worth further investigation.</p>	<p>PD</p> <p>MK</p>
7. Social media	JB had nothing to report. As soon as there was more certainty about what would be allowed after 21 June, he would publicise this on the Hall's social media.	JB
8. Wages for caretaker and booking secretary	It was agreed to increase both PC's and Bill Norman's hourly rate to £12 with effect from 1 May. MB would advise Bill and LP would advise PC. The committee would discuss in November whether there should be a further increase from 1 January next year.	MB, LP
9. Maintenance, repairs & improvements	It was agreed that JB would get a quote for re-treatment of the floor as soon as possible, so that it would be ready in time for the possible full re-opening of the Hall on 21 June.	JB

	<p>Discussions with the Twinning Association about the Belleme Cockerel had drawn a blank. MB had written to the BBC suggesting it as a candidate for repair in “Repair Shop” but had not yet received a reply. A cost of £4500 had been quoted for re-gilding and re-erecting, but further quotes would be obtained. BN would find out if Public Clocks were interested in quoting for the work. MB would arrange for an article in GGN inviting donations towards the cost.</p> <p>Work on the proposed board listing previous Hall Chairs would continue to be deferred since wall space was likely to be required for covid-19 notices.</p> <p>Replacement wall lights and the new projector for the Belleme Room would also be deferred till the Hall was fully re-opened. BN mentioned that Goring &amp; Streatley Probus were proposing to meet outside the village, and wondered whether the projector might help to persuade them and others to meet in the village at the Hall instead. It was thought, however, that their main reason for going elsewhere was to have a meal provided.</p>	<p>MB BN MB</p>
10. Any other business	MB would consult Tessa Hall on whether a formal legionella risk assessment was required.	MB
11. Dates of future meetings	16 Jun 21, 15 Sep 21, 17 Nov 21	All