



# Goring Village Hall

## Minutes of Village Hall Management Committee Meeting Wednesday 16 November 2022 at 7.30pm

**Present:** Mike Baker (MB) (Chair), Jack Calder (JC), Bill Jackson (BJ), Mark Kibble (MK),  
Linda Palmer (LP), Roger Wood (RW).  
(In minutes Paul Carter (PC) Bill Norman (BN) Bernard Novell (BLN))

Item		Action
1. Apologies	John Barrett (JB), Phil Davies (PD), Steve Smith (SS), Bryan Urbick (BU)	
2. Minutes of last meeting	The minutes were approved and passed for publication on the GVH website.	
3. Matters arising	<p>MB had done the PAT testing, but still needed to write up the labels. A problem with the floor polisher chassis not being earthed needed to be fixed.</p> <p>An article about vacancies on the Committee was published in the November GGN, and already one person had expressed an interest in joining the Committee (and subsequently agreed to become Treasurer).</p> <p>The edge of the stage had been repainted and MK had repaired some minor damage.</p> <p>MK had decided to stick with the existing blackout arrangements for the Belleme Room.</p> <p>BLN had refreshed the Covid message on the Hall website.</p> <p>Pigeon netting had not yet been installed (but was not urgent at this time of year).</p> <p>The parking lines had not yet been repainted.</p> <p>A disabled sign had been put up.</p> <p>PC's remuneration had been increased.</p>	<p>MB</p> <p>LP</p>

<p>4. Chairman's report</p>	<p><b>Covid</b> – Cases were still gradually falling, and there was no need to change the current approach. The wall hand sanitiser in the garden room had gone missing. RW offered to investigate and replace it if necessary.</p> <p><b>NEOS networks</b> – The new wifi was up and working well, with a new simpler password. The heating system was connected to it. The Hall now had free broadband.</p> <p><b>Christmas Festive Food &amp; Produce Fair</b> – This was not running this year, but various stallholders had enquired about it. It would be good to reinstate it next year, if someone could be found to organise it. None of the Committee members present volunteered, but some offered to help any member who could be persuaded to take the lead.</p> <p><b>TV Monitor</b> – MB thanked MK for setting up a TV monitor in the Garden Room. One hirer had already used it and was keen to use it regularly. MK would produce written instructions and MB would laminate them.</p>	<p>RW</p> <p>MK/MB</p>
<p>5. Treasurer's report</p>	<p>SS had circulated his report before the meeting. For the year to date we income exceeds expenditure by £8300, and we have £57,700 in the bank.</p> <p>Oxford CC had allocated £100k for grants to Village Halls to help with their energy costs, but since we were in such a strong financial position and had also negotiated favourable energy contracts, MB and SS had decided not to apply.</p> <p>SS had prepared a draft budget, and MB had added £4000 for floor sanding (which might not be needed in practice); £6000 for energy consultation; and £3000 for improving the front door.</p> <p>The problem with the front door was not just that hirers found it difficult to lock but that it did not fit properly and was draughty. One frequent hirer confirmed that improvement would be welcome. It was important that any alteration or replacement should be in keeping with the building's character. MK offered to investigate options.</p> <p>The Committee approved the proposed budget with the inclusion of the above items.</p>	<p>MK</p>

6. Environmental project report	<p>MK reported that the Oxford Brookes contact had recommended three firms to provide consultancy advice. Two of them had been very helpful and had given quotes. The quote from Drake &amp; Taylor Ltd was £4150 and from CBG was £4800. Some clarification of the quotes might be needed and MK proposed to discuss them with the energy subgroup before deciding how to proceed.</p> <p>BJ said that he knew of a number of firms that provided modern electric wall radiator systems. They generally provided advice and estimates free of charge and he wondered if spending £4000 on consultancy was necessary. MK explained that there were various options for replacing the Hall's gas heaters, including electric wall radiators, infra-red heating and an air circulation system. Solar panels might be included. Wall radiators might well be part of the solution, but other options had to be considered, and expert advice was needed on what was best to meet the Hall's particular requirements, for ventilation as well as heating. MK's had tried to get free comprehensive advice covering the various options but with little success. It would be useful if BJ would give MK details of the firms mentioned, but the Committee decided that the subgroup should still meet in the near future to take forward obtaining consultancy advice. A cost of up to £6000 was not considered excessive in the context of the importance and substantial cost of the project as a whole (though it was likely that some of that would be met by fund raising).</p> <p>MK had had discussions with Tessa Hall of Community First, who was very interested in what we were doing. She had set up an online forum involving several Halls which MK attended. It was clear that everyone was keen to do something, but did not know what. Tessa proposed to carry out a wider survey of what Oxfordshire Halls, were doing, so we would learn if other Halls had useful ideas. MK had discussed funding with her. She had mentioned ACRE's Jubilee Fund and also Oxford Community Association's Step Change Fund as possibilities. These and other possible options could be explored further once we had a quote for the work.</p>	<p>MK/PD/RW</p> <p>BJ</p>
7. Social media	Nothing to report.	
8. Maintenance, repairs & improvements	<p>The dishwasher had been serviced.</p> <p>A hirer had commented that the Garden Room chairs could do with cleaning. LP said that PC was proposing to carry out a comprehensive clean of the Garden Room, and she</p>	LP

	<p>would ask him to include this.</p> <p>PC had suggested the Hall acquiring a black bin for rubbish. (In that case a green bin should presumably be acquired too.) MB would make enquiries, but thought it likely that the Hall would be classified as a business, and businesses had to make their own commercial arrangements for removing rubbish. This was likely to be more trouble than it was worth.</p> <p>MB would buy replacements for flickering lights.</p>	<p>MB</p> <p>MB</p>
10. Any other business	<p>The Hall used Drop Box for on-line storage of documents, but it was difficult for individual Committee to use it if they did not have an account of their own with the required capacity. MB would look into whether other options such as Google Drive would be better.</p> <p>LP mentioned that PC would be unavailable on Thursday and Friday next week to set up chairs and tables required by hirers. MB, RW and MK took details and would do the setting up.</p> <p>MB mentioned that dates for the March meetings in the list he had circulated recently had been changed. (Correct dates shown below.)</p>	<p>MB</p> <p>MB/RW/MK</p>
11. Dates of future meetings	18.1.23, 22.3.23, 29.3.23 (AGM), 10.5.23, 12.7.23, 20.9.23, 15.11.23	All