

Minutes of the Isle Abbotts Village Hall Committee Meeting

Wednesday 21 February 2024

Held in the Village Hall at 7.30pm

Present – Susan Vickery (Chair), David Sutcliffe (Treasurer), Lesley Sutcliffe (Secretary), Susan Robson (Booking Secretary), Gaynor Watts, Andy Hillman, Sarah Bannister, Emily Colenso, Di Cleal, Julia Bull, Claire Smith

Apologies – Helen Toon, Boo Grieve, Fiona Hillman

Minutes of Committee Meeting held on 15 November 2023 – LS read out the minutes of the last meeting, they were agreed and signed by Sue Vickery.

Matters arising –

1. Windows were cleaned by DS and AH back in November. Many thanks to them for doing this. AH dealt with the leaves on the hall pathway and DS cleaned the porch, although it still needs a repaint.
2. PAT testing was done on 14 December by electrician Kyle Oliver
3. GW has organised a Basic First Aid course run by The British Heart Foundation, to be held on 29 February.
4. A new electricity contract has been set up (see Treasurer's report).

Booking Secretary Report – SR commented that bookings have been slow. She also thanked the committee on behalf of the PCC re use of the hall free of charge for the Big Breakfast.

Future dates booked: Thur 2nd May – Election (police commissioners)

Sun 21st April – (provisional for Hayley Westworth who is organising a Spring market at Two Bridges, and is hoping to have the trains and help from the village hall to serve teas etc. The committee agreed to help if the trains are running.)

Sat 27th April – Private Party

Sun 28th July - (Provisional for annual church BBQ)

There was a discussion re hire charges for the hall. It was decided that they should remain the same at present, although it was agreed to increase the charge to £225 for election use.

Social Committee Report – Plans for the following events are underway –

Mexican Evening – Sat 24th February

Duck Race – 30th March (Easter Saturday)

Somerset Day – Sat May 11th

Summer Ball – Sat June 15th

Treasurer' Report - DS distributed the accounts for the last quarter, along with an update of the hall's electricity consumption (see attached). Total income was £671.45, total outgoings £2,197.02. Included in the latter was renewal of the hall's insurance, Performing Rights Music Licence and PAT testing.

A new 12 month fixed deal for electricity has been arranged with Octopus which started on 2nd February. A smart meter has been installed.

DS also has set out a helpful sheet of A4 to guide a new treasurer with the role.

Secretary's Report – LS reported that she had written on behalf of the committee to David Bradshaw to thank him for setting up the village website and for maintaining it for many years.

Any other business –

AH (Parish council representative) reminded the committee that the PC were happy to pay for defibrillator pads. LS said she had that she had given some thought to the inclusion of Paediatric Pads and had decided along with other village Medics to not include these, as it was felt that we didn't have the expertise to resuscitate a child properly and the chances of the need for them would be very unlikely. The committee agreed.

AH is also in the process of updating the village website and has requested that any changes re the Village Hall be sent to him. LS and DS will check.

SR queried the use of the calendar link on the website. We all agreed that it was unnecessary and can be removed.

There was a long discussion re the future of the Village Hall and its committee, especially as SV, DS and LS are all standing down from their roles at the AGM in May. It was felt that we should try a gentle recruitment campaign for new members. CS agreed to prepare a flyer to be distributed both in paper form and digitally to encourage folk to attend the AGM and to become involved. 'Use it or lose it!'

Date of next meeting (AGM) - Wednesday 15 May 2024 to commence at 6pm with cheese and wine.