

HERSTMONCEUX VILLAGE HALL

Management Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on 12th May 2014

1. **Apologies:** Joyce Burt, Chris Thompson, Ian Stewart

Present: Mary McBurney (in the Chair), Jo Angear, Karen Hathaway, Karena Meyhew, Bryan Naish, Gerald McBurney

In attendance: Rhys Clatworthy
2. **Minutes of the meeting held on 14th April 2014** were agreed as a correct record
3. **Matters Arising not on the agenda – Flower trough:** GMcB has contacted Herstmonceux School to ask if their pupils would like to be involved in planting the trough in connection with their WW1 project, response awaited.
4. **Hon. Treasurer's Report:** IS had sent the following figures:- April Income £3586.87 Expenditure £2355.21 his comment was "a better month".
5. **Caretaker's Report:** Bookings: 2014 total value of bookings at the end of April was £35616 = 1.5% increase for the month. 2015 total value of books in £26687 = 5% increase over the last months

Electricity: useage over the last 4 week periods was £296.06 (a much warmer month)

Heaters: enquiries are still progressing over having more robust brackets made for the heaters.

Maintenance: the outside wall has been repaired

Waste Disposal: collection date has been changed to Friday to ensure the bins are empty before possible heavy use over the weekend.

MM has contacted *Veolia Trust* to ask if they are able to consider applications in respect of eco-friendly sewage systems. No reply yet received.
6. **Fund Raising:** *Grand Raffle* all users of the hall have received supplies of tickets with the request to sell to their members. Committee members were requested to continue providing items for the 'luxury hamper'. It was agreed that the weekend before the draw, the contents of the hamper will be reviewed and if necessary additional items purchased. Jo Angear will ask the Chairman of the Parish Council if he is available to make the draw on Monday 9th June. Everyone was exhorted to continue to sell tickets.
7. **Maintenance Schedule:** Saturday 5th July has been set aside as the time to carry out essential cleaning and maintenance of the hall. All committee members and 'friends' of the hall are asked to come along at 9.00 a.m. to

help. Carpet, chairs, kitchen and toilets need to be thoroughly cleaned. KH will be repainting the small hall that is used regularly by Pre-school group.

8. **HATS application to include a dog in their production of Annie.** CT, Chairman of HATS, has asked if they can use a real dog for a walk-on role in Annie. It was agreed.
9. **Offer of second-hand fold-up chairs to purchase.** Janet McInnes had approached GMcB and spoken with RC to ask if the village hall would like to purchase 24 second-hand fold-up chairs for £250 from a relative who wishes to sell them. KM said that new ones are £70.99 for 4 from Viking Office Supplies. After much discussion it was decided not to purchase the chairs as storage would be a problem (they would need a system different to the one currently used), 26 additional chairs would need to be purchased to provide same style seating in the Lounge area, and because of their design only a few chairs at a time could be transported necessitating many more journeys for users, the hall currently has more pressing demands on its limited funds. GMcB to contact Janet and thank her for the offer but to decline.

10. **Any other business:**

JA told the committee that enquiries are in hand for the village to have a **Defibrillator** available in the village – probably at the Woolpack Pub. Application has been made to British Red Cross for 2 with the possibility of one being sited at the village hall. After discussion it was agreed to continue to be kept informed of progress of the application (which is supported by the local GP) but that the village hall does not have funds to purchase such a piece of equipment and cannot be responsible for the security or safety of the equipment. If available it would need to be in the corridor and a security system in place to prevent vandalism.

Height Bar JA spoke of recent problems with Travellers parking vans on the Recreation ground car park and in the public car park in the village. She asked if the village hall should now have a Height Bar installed to prevent large vehicles accessing the car park. Reid Hall have recently installed such a bar. GMcB to make enquiries of Hailsham Roadway, who are involved with such installations, as to price and logistics of operating such a bar. Haulaway would need access to the car park when emptying bins. Dr Simmonds is understood to have expressed an interest in a Height Bar.

Civil Ceremonies: GMcB asked if he will make enquiries as to the process and cost of registering the hall for Civil Ceremonies

Website: this needs to be updated – GMcB to liaise with Liz Maddock over handover of Secretary's records.

11. **Dates of future meetings:** Monday 9th June 2014 at 7.30 p.m. when the Grand Raffle will also be drawn.