

## HERSTMONCEUX VILLAGE HALL

Management Committee Meeting 9<sup>th</sup> November 2015

**(1) Present:-** Joyce Burt: Karen Hathaway: Shelia Charlton: Mary McBurney (Chair): Gerald McBurney: Ian Stewart: Chris Thomson.

**Apologies:-** Jo Angear: Bryan Naish: Karena Mayhew.

**Attending:** Rhys Clatworthy.

**(2) Minutes of 12.Oct.15** agreed and signed.

**(3) Matters arising not on Agenda** **(a)** Memorial plaque erected on designated wall closest to memorial trough. Derek and Kitt, members of Gardening Club, did the fixing. Six children from local school have replanted trough with winter/spring bulbs and flowers (sponsored by Hopkins Estate Agents), for the dedication ceremony. **(b)** Nothing further heard about any plans for celebrating Queen's birthday in 2016. **(c)** Rhys C said that the lounge door connecting to main hall had been freed of locking mechanism for fire escape purposes. **(d)** Mary M asked about wedding photos appearing on hall web site. Rhys thought they may have gone astray MM to resend.

**(4) Hon. Treasurer's Report.** Contact Treasurer for details.

**(5) Caretaker's Report.** Value of bookings stands at £38,409 which is an increase over the month of 0.5% which is 7.3% up over end of last year. (Some increase over month due to non-regular users). Bookings for 2016 at £33,744 well up on last year at this time, giving an increase of 8.2%. Electricity £340 for last month. Maintenance:- Pumps no problem. Frame split which caused problem with hall side fire- door now sorted. Waste disposal normal. It was helpful that HATS put out special bins and notices during show. Chris T was thanked by Chair for his effort over the bins and considerable cleaning up after show finished, Chris said that 600 had attended over the week.

**(6) Grant Application:-** Mary and Shelia met with Michelle Gray Wealden District Council's Grants Officer, the 'Sustainable ???' Officer for grants from Wealden Council. Up to £5000 can be applied for so intention is to seek funding for main hall floor improvement and replacement of 'blown' windows. Decision will not be known until end of March 2016. Wealden reps raised possibility they know organisation that might help over solar panels but this remote likelihood. IS thought the electricity expenses 'one thing to be tackled' to reduce costs and mentioned Heat Exchanger system. He thought it something to consider if funds available.

**(7) Update on Lease:-** No further news.

**(8) Charity Inc. Organisation Update.** No further News

**(9) HATS :-** Chris said he wanted to thank the committee for agreeing to let HATS hire hall for whole week. It had "been such a bonus in the late evenings to have that freedom from putting away Thrust staging etc". HATS have an ongoing problem of storage space, overnight the stage had to be left fully stacked with production items and this could have been a problem if stage needed in previous 3 weeks. Rhys said he had possibilities in mind involving changes to under-stage centre area. Rhys to will try to avoid use of stage in period leading to a show, but cannot guarantee such. JB knew that

lorry-bodies had been used elsewhere but it was agreed such was a non-starter for our hall. MM thanked Hats for the half page advertising space in the show programme and wondered whether Rhys knew of the measure of success from this type of publicity. Rhys thought that word of mouth was by far the more successful means. MM also asked about the side panels on the stage and whether they could be moved because they had obstructed one stage user. IS said they were fixed in position and there were stage access needs to take into account but with notice could be moved by HATS.

**(10) A.O.B.** (a) Cleaning day availability: Joyce, Jo, Karen, Mary, Gerald will be available. 9.30 a.m. start. (b) Pros and cons of having our own steam cleaner or hiring one discussed given earlier one disappeared from hall after just 3 years use. Agreed Chair could purchase one.

Next Meeting:-4<sup>th</sup> December