

SILCHESTER VILLAGE HALL
A registered charity

Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Managing Trustees held at 7.30pm on 24th May 2012 at Silchester Village Hall Club Room.

Present: Chair: Jonathan Murdock
Secretary: Ashley Watson

Committee Members: Valerie Hyde, Shellie Dunham, Andrew Chandler, Stuart Sinclair, Kathryn McCrohan, Teresa Philpott, Stuart Sinclair, John Durrant, Eamonn McArdle

Also present: Vivian Hartshorn, Michael & Janet Earl, Steve Spillane, Scott Dyer, Mick & Pat Oram, Keith Graham (Silchester Players)

Apologies received from Neil Smithers & Sue Pragnell

Minutes of the last meeting of the Village Hall Management Committee were previously approved by the former Trustees.

Report from Management Sub-Committee

No formal submission required.

Report from Finance & Fundraising Sub-Committee – Andrew Chandler

- Revised Hall hire fees are now in place
- Keith Graham asked about the variance in fees for Silchester Players. It was explained that the Hall had agreed to a reduced hire fee for those evenings without an audience.
- It was voted upon and agreed that the fees for BDBC usage should be increased to £75
- Eamonn McArdle's position as Honourary Treasurer was voted upon electronically and approved prior to his appointment in February, but was confirmed at this meeting. His appointment as a Trustee was put to the Board and approved.

Resume of VH Accounts - Eamonn McArdle

- A summary of the accounts, as agreed with Richard Lerner, was distributed (with some minor omissions)
- There were queries about Bonus Ball figures, which were clarified.
- The figures were agreed to be an accurate reflection of the Hall's finances.
- Questions were asked about current fund-raising activities. Jonathan Murdock stated the difficulties of achieving the significant funds required for the development proposed by the previous Trustees.
- It was suggested that the Silchester Association might be approached for assistance with funding the redevelopment project, once it's scope has been agreed upon.

Report from Redevelopment Sub-Committee – John Durrant

- Three redevelopment options were outlined:
 - The £400,000 major redevelopment previously proposed.
 - An 'Essential Works' package, to provide disabled access and toilet facilities and to improve catering arrangements.
 - Plans previously designed by local architect Scott Dyer (gratis) which proposed a modest extension and re-organisation of the Hall. These plans had been submitted to, and approved by, BDBC in 2007; this permission has now lapsed.
- The requirement to sell the vegetable plots around the Hall to fund the major redevelopment was discussed. It was agreed that this would be a significant loss of amenity, though the sale to Mr and Mrs Earl of the land currently leased to them as additional garden land for their property would produce a significant amount of capital without any similar loss of current amenity to the Village Hall. The Chairman had been in touch with those who, over the years, had expressed an interest in purchasing this garden land, and had received confirmation of ongoing interest from Mr and Mrs Earl.
- There was considerable discourse about the functionality, costs and benefits of the various options.
- It was proposed that only the median 'Scott Dyer' plan should be recommended to the Board for approval.
- These plans were provided at no charge so no tendering process is required and the architect's Indemnity Insurance applies despite there being no formal contract.
- The Trustees unanimously agreed to pursue the Scott Dyer plans and approved a £1000 fund to allow Planning Permission and other approvals to be sought as necessary. Scott Dyer kindly agreed to produce at no cost updated plans suitable for submission for Building Regulations approval. The Chairman thanked him on behalf of the Trustees for his generous offer, which was gratefully accepted.
- Further discussion focussed upon funding avenues and options and £150,000 was agreed upon as an appropriate budgetary figure for discussion with Hampshire County Council.
- The Finance and Redevelopment sub-committees will meet together to discuss the options in more depth on 31st June.
- Once this development plan has been more fully considered the plans will be submitted to the village for approval.

AOB

- Details of a Community Action Hampshire training scheme for village hall management personnel were distributed.
- It was agreed that advance fees for a local dance class instructor could be refunded due to illness.
- The resignations as Trustees from Terry Price (health reasons) and Richard Lerner (re-locating to Cornwall) were noted with regret.
- The next Village Auction will be on 27th October.

The Village Hall Managing Trustees will meet again on 25th June.