

Village Hall Committee Minutes (Charity No 305236)

Meeting held in Village Hall on 27th September 2025

Present: Trustees: Paul James, Tracey Boorman, Elizabeth Thomson

Also Present: Jane Griffiths (Manager), Sandra Richards (Bookkeeper), Michael Lunn (PC Observer), Stephen Lester (PC Representative), Janet Tourell (VH Hirer) - part

Apologies: Sally Blyfield (Trustee), Tessa Heather (VH Hirer), Bob & Glenys Lake (VH Hirers)

- 1. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting** – 24th May 2025 – the minutes of the previous meetings were approved.
- 2. Manager's Report (Part 1)**
 - a. Hirer charging queries – a couple of queries regarding charges for hirers were discussed and action agreed for Manager to take further.
 - b. Asbestos Register – it was agreed that Manager will cut & paste the relevant aspects of the Asbestos report received to put into the Register which is required legally and Manager will inform all existing and new contractors of the contents.
- 3. Future of Hall** – Discussion was held about the current status of the existing village hall now that the village poll had voted for the new community centre. There are two major maintenance issues that have to be taken into account: the roof and the electrical connection from the mains to the hall (hall itself has been tested and certificated as completely safe). The following was agreed after discussion:
 - a. Copies of the existing lease, constitution and insurance policies will be circulated to all Trustees.
 - b. The Trustees will then have a joint discussion with ACRE to get advice on the legal position relating to the existing Village Hall and the Trustees obligations under the constitution. The actual questions to be raised to be discussed and agreed in advance by the Trustees.
 - c. The Committee will ask the PC for regular quarterly meetings with the PC and HDCC to discuss the progress and way forward and, in particular, to seek firm assurances about a date when a final decision will be made about the viability of the new community centre.

Meeting was joined by Janet Tourell as a Village Hall hirer for various organisations.

4. Manager's Report (Part 2) – The Manager made her report which included the following information:

- a. New contracts have been agreed with Vodafone (2 year deal and cheaper than previously), PHS (Personal Hygiene company (2 year deal).
- b. Bookings – puppy classes returned on Thursday am, Qigong in October on a Friday am & children's cookery classes. ESCC had hired the all for a session and fed back that space worked well and may use again.
- c. Other items – Fire extinguishers due to be serviced beginning October. Additional cleaning may be required due to Hall being busier and winter months.

5. Financial Review – SR presented the accounts to date which look relatively healthy largely due to Garfield Weston grant last year of £5K which went towards core costs which has helped increase the reserves. Hiring revenue is currently slightly higher than previous year but cost of water has risen sharply (30%). Electricity (highest cost for Hall) tariffs have been fixed for further year and are roughly in line with previous year. It was agreed that no further grant applications would be made until the end of the financial year (end Jan 26) as the grant awards could clash with HDCC grant applications.

6. Date of next Meeting – the next meeting would be held on Saturday, 14th February to review the end of year accounts before the AGM.