

FROXFIELD VILLAGE HALL
Meeting of the Council of Management
10th SEPTEMBER 2024 7pm
MINUTES

Attendees:

Robert Shepherd (Chair)	Will Ismay (Treasurer)	Teresa Brown
Angela Hiscock	David Handley	Dave Rymer
Viv Barnett	Sue Clegg	

Apologies:

Katherine Matcham (Secretary) - excused

1.0 Chair's welcome and meeting objectives

RS welcomed members and identified the principal objective for the meeting as being to update on progress of developing a plan for the future of the hall and to consider the next steps. RS reiterated that it is important for all Trustees to speak up and share their thoughts and suggestions, whatever the topic, but particularly in relation to the current difficulties the hall is facing. In the coming months Trustees will have to present plans, including any identified options, to a public meeting and these need to be well thought out and developed together, as an aligned committee.

RS welcomed Teresa Brown, having volunteered to become a Trustee and the Garden Club's Representative (Schedule 3 Trust Deed).

2.0 Approval of previous Minutes

The Minutes were approved with the following correction and can now be uploaded onto the VH website:

The Minutes incorrectly recorded the attendance of "Paul Phillips" on behalf of Sue Clegg/Froxfield Choir. This should have read 'Philip Martin'.

Previous Actions c/f:

Parish Council funding request: [post-meeting note: overlooked at this meeting. Add to Agenda for next meeting. RS]

Fireworks: The approach to the No Name to cater the event has not been successful, with no response to several email requests to meet. Absent a volunteer(s) to lead the event, it was confirmed that there will be no fireworks this year. It was agreed that RS will put a poster to this effect in the notice board and the village shop.

RS

3.0 Financial Update and Capital Works Decisions:

The following priority items were presented for a decision on how to proceed:

1. New rear door from Main Hall to Play Area, including frame and threshold (doesn't shut easily, draughty, single glazed, easy for kids to open)
2. Replace rotten ceiling and shelving in cupboard
3. Roof ventilation (causing damp marks in Jubilee Room)
4. Roof valley replacement (contributing to damp?)

Item 1 – door, frame, threshold: **WI** to obtain 2 quotes for replacement

Item 2 – ceiling and shelving in cupboard – **TB** to obtain quotes for removal of the installation and 2 existing shelves; replacement of ceiling and installation of 1 new shelf

Item 3 – roof ventilation. Revisit when quote received (**RS** awaiting quote, following site visit with contractor). Keep monitoring (see below).

Item 4 – monitor through this coming autumn/winter to determine whether it is still leaking or it's a result of the condensation in the roof space, or the marks from the old leak from the replaced flat roof section.

4.0 Determining the future of the hall:

In the period since the last meeting **RS** circulated the advice he received from the Charity Commission in relation to the future of the hall, the potential closure/sale options, including the potential sale of the site to Hampshire County Council at a discounted value, in an effort to keep it going. In accordance with that advice and subsequent quotes and Trustees' email approval, a Designated Advisor (Vail Williams) has now been appointed. Vail Williams will produce a valuation report in accordance with the charity legislation associated with any disposal. This is due to be completed by 11 October and Trustees will meet to review the findings, as well as general progress with HCC, future-planning and the necessary next steps.

TB suggested that a face-to-face approach to potential volunteers is required. **SC** agreed. **TB** and **SC** to approach potential volunteers to get people on the committee and /or to organise fundraising events for the hall. Update at next meeting as the people and the funds are required to be in place very quickly to have a positive impact.

TB & SC

It was noted that every household in the Parish (419 no.) had been written to, that notices had been placed in the noticeboard at the hall and in every Parish Magazine for the last c.10 months, all asking for volunteers and explaining the risk to the future operation of the hall. In addition, people had been approached at the monthly Drop-In which **RS** generally attends, but no one has come forward and those approached directly have not felt able to give any time and volunteer. **Kate Allen** and **Fee Gibbon** spent almost a year searching and cajoling for a new Chairman and Treasurer to replace them.

The timetable for any closure or sale and the forecast decline in the Reserves, dictates that this process starts now and will be run in parallel to efforts to try to keep the hall going.

5.0 AOB:

WI confirmed that the minor anomaly in the accounts had been resolved with the auditor and that the accounts and required annual submission would now be completed online (**Deadline is 31 October**)

WI

SC is meeting Jenna Samengo-Turner to resolve the current issue with the enquiries@froxfordvillagehall.co.uk email address not being monitored and it being not clear as to where this is being delivered. Clearly this is an urgent issue.

SC

RS advised that he had secured a £524 in EHDC Councillor grants for the cricket club (paid to FVH on their behalf, absent a constitution available for the Cricket Club). The details are now all closed out with EHDC and the monies will be transferred to the CC. RS to confirm figure to WI for transfer.

RS

TB advised that the film night in Privett was successful. RS to approach Edward Sadler to find out what would be required to run one in Froxford VH and then to determine the level of interest. It was noted that Privett has volunteers to make and bring food, which Froxford struggles with since Kate and Jenna stood down, having done it for several years.

RS

Next and upcoming meetings:

23rd October at 7pm

11th December at 7pm