

## Great Easton Village Hall Committee Meeting

Minutes of Meeting held Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2013 @ 8pm

Attendees:                      Apologies:                      Minutes to:

Flick Craven (Chair)              Elizabeth Hankey              Attendees

Sally Armstrong                  Nora Clarke                  Apologies

Alice Murdock (PC)

Shirley Connon (Treasurer)

Alan Wilmer

Kay Mitchell (WI) (Sec)

Tim Smith

Haylea Smith

David Gibley (VC)

Margaret Stamp

Marie Harrison-Butlin

### Apologies/Introductions

Apologies received from Elizabeth Hankey, also David Gibley and Margaret Stamp who would be late.

### Previous Minutes

Read and agreed

### Matters Arising

1) Sally is arranging for the urn to be fixed and awaiting a new tap. Sally to use funds from the Jumble/Car Boot Sale to pay for repairs

2) Tree lopping has been completed

3)Swings – David Gibley has ordered new seats. Spoken with Charlie Jefferson to get the playground swings and village hall swings inspected at the same time.

4)Curtain – Sally Armstrong still working on the Curtain.

5)Roof update – two slates have fallen off and been replaced. Two quotes received and David is awaiting an assessment. Assessment will provide clear picture of what's needed, what we can afford and when things need doing.

Discussion re roof repairs. Suggestion keep doing small repairs, thereby keeping spend low: Some of the grant money is specifically for roof repairs – approx. £6K. If it's is not used on the roof may have to pay it back.

**Action:** Feedback from David following assessment

#### Forthcoming Events

6)Margaret's suggestion of Car Wash. Nothing forthcoming. Possibly a suggestion for the Youth Club.

7)Glam Rock Night – Shirley reported this is unlikely to go ahead.

8)Quiz and Chips – need to plan ahead to Autumn to allow Haylea and Tim to prepare and secure Mark and his chip van.

9)Barn Dance – need musician and a caller. Alice has looked into this, approximate costs £400-£500 (depends on size of the band).

Will contact Pub to ask them not to put event on around 21/9/13 or 28/9/13 (provisional dates). Possible price per adult £8, £4, 5 – 12yrs and U5s FOC. Possible catering suggestions sausage, jacket potato and salad/coleslaw.

**Action:** Alice to find out more information re: bands.

Kay to follow up on Dr Busker

10)Party in the Park or Paddock – Norah organising. Possibly 6 July 13 12am-12pm

Committee felt some of the suggestions in terms of activities/entertainment may be too ambitious. Suggestions of a BBQ, tug of war and crafts/activities for

children/families and a band in the evening. Keep this as a village event and not publicise outside area.

Sally, Flick, Shirley, Tim, Haylea, Alan, Alice and Marie all available to help out on 6/7/13.

**Action:** Flick to discuss with Norah.

#### 11) Race Night

Issue over invoice for PTA Race Night. Norah querying that Flick agreed £8 per hour to hire VH. Regular users charged £14 per hour, otherwise charged £15. Flick cannot recall the conversation and nothing in previous minutes.

Alan queried why Village Hall don't provide flexible rates in order to encourage more use. Shirley confirmed need to clear £5-6K running costs per year therefore need regular income. Committee members felt rates were reasonable compared to some Village Halls.

#### Alan's Marketing Strategy

Alan had sent a lot of emails out to Committee members and felt the overall response had been "if it's not broke, don't fix it".

There was discussion about Alan's proposal and his vision for taking the Village Hall forward.

Committee considered a number of new ideas put forward by Alan to attract new members and increase use of the Village Hall, thereby bringing in more money.

Alan felt that responses were something of a backward step; he felt the goal was to increase community use of the Village Hall. Essential to meet the running costs therefore anything over and above could improve our financial position and enable the village hall to develop further and encourage new groups and new members, something previously identified in terms of succession planning.

Alan had drafted a Newsletter. Some Members were wary of a Newsletter as it can entail a lot of work and not sure what it would achieve. Another

suggestion was a questionnaire to gather ideas and suggestions from villagers with a £25 prize for the best idea.

**Actions:**

Alan to write an editorial for the next meeting and circulate beforehand

Tim to set up an electronic survey and link this through the Village website

Marie to publicise the link in the Parish Magazine through an advert/article promoting what we are doing and why, with £25 prize for best idea (possible age groups?)

Margaret producing a 'Welcome Pack' for newcomers, listing what's on/what's available. Promote Village Hall through this.

AOB

Alice - Some of the pictures taken down by Youth Club have been re-hung

Marie – starting in May, every Thursday between 4.30-5.30 there's a Dance Group for children. (Francesca Wells)

11/5/13 and 18/5/13 – Bands playing for MacMillan and LOROS

Need a note to regular users – PLEASE LEAVE HALL AS YOU FOUND IT AND KEEP IT CLEAN. **Action:** Marie to introduce action book for groups to leave notes

**Date of Next meeting: 20/5/13 at 8pm**