

Minutes of the Great Easton Village Hall Committee held Wednesday 27th March 10.30am

1. Present

Tim Smith
Alice Murdock
Kay Mitchell
Louisa Feltham
Margaret Stamp
Sally Armstrong

Apologies: Lorna Bryant and Vicki Halliday

2. Minutes of the last Meeting

The minutes of the last meeting were read and agreed.

3. Matters Arising

Tim has received a request for a New Years Eve party booking.
We are not taking bookings at this point

Parish Office: No further update from the Diocese and the impact this may have on the Parish Office

Vino Van - Tim has not heard back from the Vino Van - this action closed for the time being

Village Hall:

- New sound and lighting equipment is now on VH Insurance. Premium likely to increase when we renew
- Faults with the lighting system - Tim is in discussion with Terry to rectify this. Louisa reported that the stage requires longer poles for side screens (provided by Terry)
Action Tim and Terry
- Tim indicated that the Hall might need to provide operating instructions for the new kit -c/f
- Hall users to be reminded they need their own insurance when using their own equipment and an 'At Owners Risk' statement needs to be included on the T&Cs. VH insurance covers, but only up to a limit
- Bolt for stage door needs replacing - c/f Alice

4. Finance

VH finances healthy at present

5. Fund Raising

Alice reported the Quiz Night had to be cancelled as our date clashed with Caldecott's Quiz Night. New date: 5th October.

Alice informed the meeting that there will be no Church Fete this year - time for a rethink.

There is a plan to hold a Village BBQ in July at the VH.

Mary H-M has arranged a meeting on 8th May (evening) at the VH inviting people to come along to hear about the proposal and hopefully encourage others to offer their help/ideas.

The VHC are invited to attend to see where there might be scope for collaboration.

Table Top Sale 14th September

Possible film Night in November

6. GELT Charging

Tim referred Committee members to his email that explains the breakdown in profits made by GELT, post Panto.

GELT made a loss on the Panto this year (including the Corby production). Louisa feels the VH charges are a pressure on her budget and requested the Committee to reconsider their charging. She has contacted other Am-Dram groups to see what arrangements they have, for example, one group pays a lump sum to the VH

Louisa asked for a reduction in hire charges, pre-performance. She suggested a 50% reduction during the month before the show, and removing the % of ticket sales that goes to the VH.

Tim recognised that GELT use the Hall at times when there are no other bookings, thereby bringing in an income. The proposed arrangement would have to be equitable for all regular users who may wish to use the Hall when there isn't a booking. This raises questions about priority when a full-paying user wants to use the Hall during this time.

It was suggested that there has to be some controls so that GELT do not use the Hall for stage/scenery adaptations at times when the Hall is being used

It was suggested GELT might make modifications elsewhere in their budget to create savings, particularly given the large sums spent on costume and other items. GELT could increase ticket prices in Corby.

Louisa has started to make contact with other venues to see if they can offer a lower-priced arrangement.

Action: Tim was asked to work up some different pricing options/structures for GELT including regular Hall users, for discussion at our next meeting

7. AOB

The Cooker doesn't work unless the clock is set - need a sign explaining how to do this

Action: Sally

New 'Mind the Step' strip needed on the bar

Action: Alice

Louisa reported the Freezer is not cold enough to freeze ice cream. Tim has ordered a freezer thermometer and will report back at the next meeting

Kay reported that the thermostat is often turned down to 0 before Art Group meet. May be Youth Club. It was suggested Art Group check radiators haven't been turned off/down

Ena Mechin reported the back door was left open after Youth Club.

Action: Tim will meet with Youth Club to raise this and the heating

Alice raised that further discussion is required regarding the back of the stage.

Need to decide what to do with it. c/f

Under the stage needs a clear out c/f

Store Cupboard needs clearing out too c/f

Meeting ended 12.33 pm