

**THORNHAM VILLAGE HALL TRUSTEES MEETING  
TUESDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2016  
7.30 PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL**

**DRAFT MINUTES**

**PRESENT**

Joan Calkin	Eileen Chandler	Dave Cowdel
Siobhan Evans (Secretary)	Janine Eves	Jude Farrell
Sylvie Fawcett	Richard Jannaway	Ian Macrae
Priscilla Macrae (Treasurer)	Judy O'Keefe	Vanessa Simmons
Mark Tibbenham (Chairman)		

**1 Apologies**

There were none.

**2 Minutes of 6<sup>th</sup> October 2015 meeting**

The minutes were passed as an accurate record.

Proposed: Janine Eves

Seconded: Priscilla Macrae

**Matters Arising**

- Invoice for electrical work - Ian Macrae reported that the invoice for the recent electrical work had now been received but that the certification was still to be signed off.
- Stage carpet – Eileen Chandler and Ian brought along samples from a local supplier and a colour and style were agreed upon. However, Janine Eves mentioned that there appeared to be evidence of woodworm under the stage, so Dave Cowdel agreed to make arrangements for this to be confirmed and treated before going ahead with the new carpet.
- Shed replacement – Dave and Ian have identified a suitable replacement shed which should be trouble free for at least 10 years, and reported that the cost of installation would be approximately £2,000. It was generally thought that moving the shed to the rear of the recycling bins would provide extra security for the oil tank. It was decided to notify John Cousins of our plan to reposition the shed, asking him to notify us within a given timeframe if this raised any issues for the Estate.
- Oven – after much discussion, it was still unclear whether previous problems experienced with the oven have arisen because of a fault or incorrect usage by Trustees. Before making an expensive and possibly unnecessary purchase of a new oven, Dave said he would do more testing on the oven itself and Sylvie Fawcett offered to speak with the organisers of “Light Bites”, who regularly use the kitchen facilities, to see if they have also encountered problems.
- Entrance to the hall – Vanessa Simmons will lead a working group to create a more attractive approach to the hall, using planting, landscaping and screens for the bins. It was agreed that a budget of £100 would be sufficient.
- PAT testing – Dave reported that this will be done in the next week or so.
- Hall lighting – Jude Farrell reported that Mick Farrell and Steven Schwarz are working towards creating ambient lighting suitable for all events held at the hall. This project is

ongoing. Dave mentioned that if this raises the necessity for more professional electrical work, they might consider including in the job a permanent supply for the new satellite broadband equipment which has recently been installed.

3 **Chairman's Report**

The Chairman had nothing to add outside of the existing Agenda items.

4 **Treasurer's Report**

The bank account balances as at 31<sup>st</sup> December (end of financial year) are as follows:

Current account	£2,815
Virgin deposit account	£12,817

Interest of £171 from November 2014 to November 2015 has been paid into the Virgin account. Since 14<sup>th</sup> December, £1,500 has been transferred from the current account to the deposit account, so the Virgin account now holds £12,817 and the current account balance is £2,581.

5 **Village Hall Rota**

January	Mark Tibbenham	April	Joan Calkin
February	Vanessa Simmons	May	Dave Cowdel
March	Siobhan Evans	June	Eileen Chandler

6 **Village Hall Maintenance**

- Film night – Ian said that, now that the film nights are an established and popular feature, we should consider purchasing our own equipment so that we would no longer have to prevail upon Steven and Tina Schwarz for the use of their personal equipment. Jude mentioned that an application has been made for a grant to purchase film screening equipment and that we hope to have a response to this in a week or two. Eileen said that, even if this application is unsuccessful, we should consider purchasing the equipment anyway. All agreed that, once again, many thanks are due to Mick and Steven for all their hard work.
- Car park – Ian has spoken to Mike Gooderham about the pile of stone chippings, and he will spread them where they are thin and the remainder will be left in a thick layer along the side of the hall.
- Paper bank – this has been moved by the Council, leaving the oil tank more vulnerable.
- Gents toilet – Ian reported that the toilet pan is unstable and that the flushing mechanism is faulty. He and Dave will look at it with a view to repair or replacement.
- Thermostat – Jude said that Steven Schwarz has requested that we consider investing in a modestly priced wireless thermostat which, in his opinion, would provide a more controlled temperature in the hall. Given that there are thermostats on all the radiators, it was unclear how this would improve matters, so it was agreed to ask him to supply further information.

7 **Use of Village Hall: our aims and objectives**

Jude said that, as we now seem to be able to comfortably cover our costs with regular, well established and successful fundraising events, we might consider holding more non-profit events for the benefit of the Thornhams community. Everyone agreed that the purpose of the hall is to engender community spirit and this suggestion met with no objections.

8 **Review of Events**

- Film Nights: 16th October “Far From The Madding Crowd”, 20th November “Mr. Holmes” and 21st November “Inside Out”, a film screening for families. All these films were well attended and made a combined profit of £480.60. The only comment received was a request for more soft drinks at the bar.
- Quiz Night, 23rd October – this was a very enjoyable event, making a profit of £429.63. Everyone agreed that Jonathan Eves did an excellent job as quizmaster, although Janine is not sure if he is willing to do it again. The position, therefore, is still considered to be vacant and any volunteers will be most welcome.
- Christmas Fayre, 14th November – another positive event with a warm atmosphere, making a profit of £354.07. It was agreed that a separate raffle for Priscilla Macrae’s Christmas cake did not raise enough funds to make it worthwhile, so would not be repeated next time.

9 **Future Fundraising Events**

- Film Night, 15th January “Suffragette”, 19<sup>th</sup> February “45 Years”, 18<sup>th</sup> March “Brooklyn” and 22<sup>nd</sup> April “The Lady In The Van”.
- Jumble Sale, 23rd January, 2-4pm – helpers to the hall at 10am on the day, please. Priscilla will get the float and plastic bags and Jude will get tea, coffee, biscuits, etc. Jude will ask the Salvation Army to collect anything left over at the end.
- Quiz – a provisional date of 11<sup>th</sup> March was agreed upon, providing we have a question master or mistress. A final decision will have to be made by the middle of February to allow for advertising in the Messenger and production of fliers, posters, etc.

10 **Any other business**

- Richard Jannaway was welcomed as a new Trustee.
- Dave mentioned that the dustbin blew over into the road this week while it was left out for collection. It was suggested that a coat hook attached to the tree might secure the bin and Richard agreed to take a look.

**Date of next Meeting:**

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2016 (includes AGM)

Meeting closed 9.12 pm