



MALBOROUGH VILLAGE HALL & PLAYING FIELDS ASSOCIATION

**Minutes of the Management Committee Meeting
Held at Malborough Village Hall at 7.30pm
on Wednesday 10th January 2024**

Present:

Andy Morgan Chairman (AM)
Ray Carr – representing SVRA (RC)
Tim Chandler - Secretary (TC)
Victoria Flower (VF)
Janice Ginn (JG)
Sally Harvey (SH)
John Jevans - Sports (JJ)
Val Jevans - Bookings (VJ)
Ann Kendall representing Malborough Parish Council (AK)
Tony Lyle (TL)
John Mahood - Treasurer (JM)
Bob Smale (BS)
Jonathan Towne (JT)

1.Apologies:

Kevin Broom representing KM (KB);
Jill Clarke - representing MADS (JC)
Matthew Villaneuve (MV)

2.The Minutes of the last Meeting.

The Minutes of the meeting of 13th December 2023 were approved by the Committee, and signed by the Chairman.

Proposed : VJ; Seconded JJ

3. Matters Arising: None

ACTION

4. Reports

a. Chairman : the gas heaters in the main hall continue to be a problem; the controls are proving to be unreliable, and each time Buswells are called out they exact a charge of more than £300. They have recommended that we endeavour to keep a record each time the system fails and needs to be reset. AM will demonstrate to JJ how to reset the heaters in the event of the future recurrence of the problem and in an endeavour to avoid unnecessary expense.

AM/JJ



b. Treasurer: the accounts to the end of December 2023 were distributed to all committee members. We have received donations to a total of £516, including £300 h from KATS towards the cost of the new curtains in the Hall, and £200 from the Hope Cove Weekend Committee towards the cost of installing a Hearing Loop in the Hall. TC pointed out that after a cursory review of the Profit & Loss account to the end of December 2023, we appeared to be running at an ongoing loss situation compared with the previous year, where at the end of March 2023 there was a surplus of £11,003.75 p, and if this is added to the current ongoing loss of £3,229.88p was equivalent to a loss to date against the previous year of more than £14,000. With total current cash reserves of approximately £39,000, this means that unless we can significantly increase our income and reduce our outgoings within two years this will no longer be a viable operation. It is accepted that during the course of this year there has been significant capital expenditure, but reference to the list of planned projects will show that future expenditure may indeed be greater. The situation must be reflected in our forthcoming review and discussion on rental rates for 2024/25.

ALL

c. Secretary: TC extended his thanks to JG for carrying out the role of Minutes Secretary at the December meeting of the committee. JG pointed out that the binder for the Minutes is now at capacity and the committee agreed that TC could proceed to order a new binder.

TC

d. Sports: discussions are progressing with the group who wish to start playing Pickle Ball in the hall, and JJ has arranged for them to discuss using the hall on alternative weeks with the Badminton group. When the Hall floor is resurfaced, we will consider appropriate lines to be provided for the sports. The new container ordered by KM for storage adjacent to the Clubhouse awaits installation when the ground is firm.

JJ

e. Bookings : at the moment, just 2 new bookings for children's parties. Hannah Winzer has started her Clubercise classes on Thursday evening. The Church Quiz is on Saturday, 17 February, and The Compost Roadshow is on 2 March from 1230 to 4 PM. Problems with the heater in the Hall above the piano continue. It has been agreed with Ben at the Co-op/ASDA that while the changeover is happening, they may park in the Village Haall car park. The Ramblers have informed VJ that they will be around on Tuesday the 23rd January, and may therefore be parking a couple of cars in the Village Hall car park.

f. Grounds: Cutting-Edge have cut the fields this week. The contractor who had agreed to clear the posts out of the bank adjacent to the Play Area has been indisposed. AK advised that she has arranged for another contractor to carry out this work. BS has noted Geoff Allen's comments regarding the Wood Sign and this will be replaced.

g. Wood : TL is examining the various options for the provision of suitable hedging plants for the bank on the north side of the estate. He is exploring with Devon Wildlife Trust the possibility of grants being available for this work. The footpath around the wood is now being obstructed by overhanging trees which have not been cut back for a couple of years, and he will arrange for this work to be done.



TL

5. Risk Assessment : we are now awaiting the mandatory inspection and test of all our electrical installations.

AM

6. CCTV: Geoff Allen had reported a noticeably increase in the dumping of rubbish and fly tipping by the local authority bins on the car park. It was considered whether CCTV to cover this area might be appropriate, but was pointed out that the trees between the hall building and the refuse bins would interfere with the sight line.

AM

7. Energy provision: following the agreement of the committee, TL will submit forms necessary to obtain an assessment under the new government Clean Energy Support Grant scheme (DCMS). This submission will include the provision to the authority of all relevant financial data appertaining to the Association, and this was agreed unanimously by the committee. An assessment is necessary so that an objective view can be obtained on our current energy usage profile, before recommendations can be made for improvements in that profile and grant applications completed to support the costs.

It was agreed that Mike Hodges, a member of Renewable South Hams, will be invited by TL to make a 15-minute presentation at 7:15 PM on Wednesday the 14th of February 2024 before the committee meeting commences. Mike has detailed and up-to-date information about the present and planned electricity network and delivery to our area, and such information may prove very pertinent with regard to any future plans for the further development within the Hall. SH agreed to provide tea coffee and biscuits from 7 PM, prior to Mike's presentation. It was emphasised that the committee meeting will commence at 7:30 PM prompt.

TL

8. Malborough Parish Council matters: the Parish Council has not yet heard back from Fields in Trust regarding the land swap, which is not good news – Council contacted them again this week and will continue do so on a regular basis until a satisfactory reply is received.

Some members of the Council have been working on the proposal and a tender for the car park has been drawn up – this and the detailed list of the proposals with estimates for the field will be discussed at the next Parish Council meeting, and hope to bring their formal proposal to the Association committee at the February meeting. Along with the improvements to car parking they are concentrating on changes to the tennis courts and also provision of a boule court in the area adjacent the car park extension and makes sense that any ground work to be done should be done at the same time.

Section 106 money is available for many of the proposals, but they are also investigating extra sources of finance where these are available.

There have been complaints about the area where the bonfire had been situated in November 2023, on which the committee has been made aware.

As reported earlier, arrangements have been made to the posts and wire on the bank between the Play Area and the football field to be removed shortly as a safety issue in the most recent inspection of the Play Area.



9. Summer fête 2024: it was agreed that the Fête will be held on Saturday, 13 July 2024.

10. Projects for 2023.24

- a. A new clock will be hung on the wall in the Hall, above the cleaning cupboard door, and the old clock removed.
- b. No further suggestions have been submitted to TC with regard to a new name for the Annexe, and committee members are asked to please come up with some ideas and **let TC know before the next meeting of the committee**. It is hoped that with minor refurbishment the Annexe may be promoted to local businesses and organisations as a suitable venue for small meetings; it is felt by TC that a more commercial and marketable name for this room should be agreed.

ALL

c. Painting the Old Pavilion, delayed until spring

d. Removal of old floodlight posts – in hand

AM/BS

e. Hearing loop for Hall – in hand

AM

f. Publicity for corporate hirers – see b. above

TC

g. Maintenance of Hall floor – on hold, until finance permits

h. Replace lighting in Hall - on hold, until finance permits

i. Summer Fête 2024 – see above

j. Replace heating system in Hall; we have received a quotation from Andy Crane, who installed the new heaters in the Annexe, with an estimate to provide air to air heating in the main Hall for about £12,000. AM advised that it would be necessary to install an additional 3-phase electrical supply before such an installation could be considered. This will be part of the considerations relating to Minute 7. above.

k. Cleaning outside of building: this will be delayed until the spring.

12. Date of next meeting:

Wednesday, 14th February 2024 at 7.30pm in the Annexe, following the presentation at 7:15 PM by Mike Hodges – see Minute 7 above.

13. The meeting closed at 2045

Signed as a true record :

**A.Morgan
Chairman**

14th February 2024