

MALBOROUGH VILLAGE HALL & PLAYING FIELDS ASSOCIATION
Minutes of the Management Committee Meeting
Held at Malborough Village Hall at 7.30pm
on Wednesday 10th November 2021

Present:

Andy Morgan Chairman (AM); Tim Chandler - Secretary (TC);
John Jevans - Sports (JJ); Val Jevans - Bookings (VJ); Jonathan Towne (JT);
Sally Harvey (SH); Tony Lyle (TL); Jill Clarke (JC) representing MADS;
John Yeoman (JY) representing Malborough Parish Council;

1.Apologies:

John Mahood - Treasurer (JM);
Bob Smale (BS) representing Salcombe View Residents' Association
John Butler (JB) representing Malborough Bonfire Night committee
Kevin Broom representing KM (KB);

2.The Minutes of the last Meeting.

The Minutes of the meeting of 13th October 2021 were approved by the Committee, and signed by the Chairman.

Proposed: JJ; Seconded VJ

3. Matters Arising: none

4. Bonfire night – 6th November 2021

The event was postponed in view of the very windy conditions and concern for the safety of the public. It is still planned for the event to take place on Friday, 12 November. The committee was aware of advance expenditure by supporters of the bonfire night committee in advance of the event, and undertook that any spend which could not be recovered elsewhere would be considered favourably for compensation by the committee. A meeting will be held on the morning of Friday 12th to make a final decision.

5. Reports

a. Chairman: He has installed additional lighting in the old pavilion, both inside the building and in the Veranda, and the floodlight has been put back in place. He will require access to the clubhouse and especially the back room to install 2 cameras on the CCTV system and will contact KB to obtain the key. It was agreed by the committee that MVH should hold a complete set of clubhouse keys in the event of an emergency.

AM

b. Treasurer: the accounts had been forwarded to the Secretary who had distributed them to the committee members prior to the meeting. A copy is attached to these minutes. Outstanding debtors were discussed, in particular with Lesley McGhee who used to run the Monday martial arts session, with whom no contact has been achieved, and VJ will investigate further as to her whereabouts.

VJ

A grant application was submitted to the Co-op local community fund, a cheque in the sum of £150 has been received and the committee expressed its appreciation and gratitude for this generous contribution.

c. Secretary:

He had held a meeting at the hall with a local surveyor/valuer to obtain an up-to-date valuation of the Hall premises for insurance purposes, as no record has been found to confirm that this is been done in the recent past. Current buildings insurance is in the order of £720,000. He recommended the committee give thought to placing a current value on the contents of the building, as this also needs to be updated for insurance purposes. Of concern was the cost for replacing the stage curtains, all the electronics including sound system, electric screen, reactive whiteboard, and also all the stacking chairs. All fittings and fixtures like kitchen, and toilet facilities would be included under the buildings insurance.

ALL

- f. Sports: the pitches have been standing up well, except for the small pitch which is cutting up. T L confirmed that it will recover during the winter. The netball posts will be stored in the garage during the winter. TC mentioned his recent discussion with a 10-year-old girl who had asked whether it was possible to start a junior netball team in Malborough, as she was very keen to play. The committee recognised the additional legal requirements for the protection of young people and felt that human resources are not available within the committee to establish and manage such a project. However, mention will be made in a forthcoming edition of the Malborough Messenger to see if any local residents and children might be interested in such an arrangement.

TC

- f. Bookings: bookings are going well, with two wedding receptions booked for next year, in May and June. The new Brazilian jujitsu class starts on Friday the 19th with interest from another jujitsu class if we have availability. MAD kids will start rehearsing on Mondays from April, another evening booked. Julie Wells has been very successful with her Pilates classes and from January has booked two extra sessions. Keith has booked his usual 4 lunches next year, as well as the two shows. The parish council has booked Saturday, 2 April for an Environment Fair. Delighted to say that U3a have booked for next year.

f. Wood report: lot of work has been carried out during the autumn, clearing undergrowth and footpaths. Pitman Trees have thinned out about two thirds of the wood, with a third still to be done. We have carried out three lots of tree planting, two of 100 whips which are doing quite well, including some which have been planted along the hedge line on the north side of the estate, about 80% of which are still surviving. Eight new trees were planted by the cycle path but they all have all gone, including the stakes! Between 60% and 70% of the new whips in the wood have survived which is a very high rate. However only 50% on Collaton bank seem to have survived. We shall be carrying out planned maintenance to wildfire areas and strimming back before the winter, however some of the flowers are still in flower and we shall wait until they have seeded. SH offered to help TL to cut back the two areas of wild flowers.

TL/SH

Jamie has expressed a wish to invest in installing planters around the village, and this is under consideration by Malborough Parish Council.

There is no cover still for the gang mowers, as the device designed and constructed by TL earlier in the year has been broken down by local kids. TL asked if a new tarpaulin could be purchased as a short-term protection. The committee agreed that he should investigate this and come back to committee in December with an idea of the cost of providing a stout and durable tarpaulin cover. The committee will then consider this expenditure.

Thanks are extended to Devon Wildlife Trust, Malborough and South Huish School and the Woodland Trust for all the help that they have given through the year with regard to the planting and maintenance of our trees.

TL

6. KM report

The season is progressing smoothly, with no apparent problems.

7. Ongoing matters

- a. Repairs to car park et cetera – TC is maintaining contact with Baker Estates with regard to the repair of the damaged area of the village hall car park; he has had a meeting with Councillor Mark Long to discuss the ongoing maintenance of the roadway and sublet car park, and ML has agreed to arrange for this to be regularly cleaned by the SHDC roadway cleaning machine, and for a team to visit regularly to ensure that the weeds are kept under control. Priority is for the drains in the roadway and car park to be cleared before the winter season hits. This was agreed.
- b. Christmas tree 2021, Geoff Allen has kindly offered to supervise the installation of the new Christmas tree once it has been delivered, and has asked that the committee provides the manpower to install the lighting et cetera. **JJ/VJ agreed to liaise with GA on this matter.**
- c. Access for all footpath: JY raised the question of surfacing the proposed footpath with a durable surface to avoid it becoming muddy in wet weather. It was suggested that 'planings' might be suitable material, which when compacted should provide the necessary surface. It was suggested that the rubber mats in the Play Area could also be used.
- d. Car Park extension – this matter still in hand, and JY advised that the new Malborough Park Play Area will be completed for the Jubilee, contractors have been appointed. When the project has been completed, Fields in Trust will be approached with a suggestion that they might accept the play area into their portfolio in exchange for releasing the land at Malborough Village Hall for the original car park extension proposed.
- e. EV vehicle charging – TC has been in regular contact with InstaVolt who are still awaiting an estimate from DNO regarding the cost of installing the necessary power supply to the MVH estate. Once this is received, they will carry out a viability study and advise. TC has impressed upon them the desire of the committee for swift action to get the charging points installed as soon as possible.
- f. Duke of Edinburgh memorial tree – TL was asked to obtain quotes for a significant tree for planting in the grounds. **TL**

8. Any other business:

- a. VJ advised that the flushing mechanism in the disabled toilet had again been damaged, although JJ had carried out repairs, it was felt that more radical work was needed. It was agreed that she could contact Doug Prout to attend, examine the matter and if necessary, replace the flushing mechanism to ensure that it did not break down in the future. **VJ**
- b. TC had contacted Avon Windows to enquire as to when the replacement kitchen window would be fitted, as agreed under the window replacement contract of autumn 2021. No reply has yet been received.
- c. TC advised that Bob Smale had emailed him to advise that under his contract with his employer, he is able to provide one day a year when he can work for a local charity. Bob has offered his services to carry out strimming in the grounds, and TL will contact him to discuss the areas that would benefit from his work, and to agree a date when this would be convenient. **TL/BS**
- d. TC pointed out to the committee that the condition of the grounds generally is beginning to look substandard, and that there may be a case for appointing a caretaker to take responsibility for the overall care and maintenance of the grounds. This would include such matters as keeping drains clear sweeping up leaves, picking up litter if necessary, and advising the committee of any work that needed to be done to keep the premises up to standard.
- VJ mentioned that one of her potential wedding reception clients had expressed his disappointment at the appearance of the approach to the hall and this may lead to the loss of valuable bookings. It was agreed that we could not permit this to affect our income. TC will place an article in the next edition of the Malborough Messenger asking for any local individual who would like to take on this function. **TC**

10. Date of next meeting:

Wednesday, 8th December 2021 at 7.30pm in the Annexe.

11. The meeting closed at 2110