

Lydeard St. Lawrence Village Hall  
Management Committee

Meeting held on Tuesday 2nd February 2021 at 7pm via Zoom.

Present: Don Hobson, Paul Yeomans, Stephen Baines, Pauline Smith, Michaela Greener  
Kate Campbell, Clare Marshall, Jo Stewart

Welcome to New Treasurer: Unfortunately the person who had put himself forward for this role, proved to be unsuitable, so once again we are looking for a new Treasurer. Steve Baines will now pass all relevant documents to Don, who will cover this job until a suitable candidate is found. It seems there is a dearth of people willing to take in this job. Steve attended the meeting so he could report on the last 12 months. Questions were asked about the interview process and whether references were required. As the Meeting was limited to a set time, it was agreed to discuss this in greater depth in the future.

Minutes of Meeting held on 1st December 2020, were agreed as being a true and accurate record. No matters arising.

Treasurers Report: This had been circulated amongst Committee Members, it will need to be updated. The Independent Auditor, Mary O'Flanagan will need to have seen and agreed the completed Accounts before our Annual Meeting in April. We would have operated at a loss last year if it had not been for the Business Support Grant we received during the first lockdown, which was for £10,000. Two other smaller government grants have been applied for, which if granted, will help to tide us over until the Village Hall can re-open. They cover the period of Tier 4 restrictions and the latest lockdown.

Looking at outgoings, maintenance costs were high as we needed to replace the hot water heater in the kitchen and we had agreed for quite a bit of the hall to be redecorated, including the big hall and stage area. This was completed last May, by Trevor Johnson- total cost: £1,310.00 including materials.

Insurance: The premium is £650 per annum. We had a three month payment holiday in 2020. Steve will ensure this is paid. There is £149.00 cash that needs to be paid into the bank, from the Coffee Shop, which would normally run when the Post Office is open.

Post Office: currently the Mobile Post Office is not operating, the post mistress has been furloughed. Once again Steve has written to the new Post Master (Alcombe), regarding the outstanding rent. No response. The first quarter of 2020 the rent was paid by the previous Post Master. (Watchet). At Don's request the Post Mistress was able to list the times the Post Office was open during 2020. We applied to the Parish Council for a subsidy to cover our costs. They have agreed to cover our costs of £10 per session to the sum of £820, during 2020. This subsidy will be reviewed on an annual basis.

Hire of Hall as a Polling Station: we have received a request from the Council with regards to the election in May of the Police Commissioner. In 2019 we charged £95.00. The hall was available from 06.30 - 22.30. It was suggested we increase this fee to £120. Will ensure that once Polling Day is over, that Linsey goes in and gives the Hall a thorough clean. Proposed by Paul. Seconded by Michaela.

Maintenance: Paul reports that there is a leak in the roof above the back door. This needs to be repaired. He has two quotes: Maurice Hartnell £292. + VAT for a quick fix. Or £586 + VAT for a thorough, long lasting repair.

Second quote: is a verbal one, from Marv Smith for £300.

It was agreed that Paul could spend up to £703 on the leak. Proposed by Pauline. Seconded by Clare.

We also need to consider substantial repairs to the Outside Wall on the Left Hand side of the building and Car Park.

Any other Business: Pauline had purchased some more face masks, she will forward her bill for payment.

Don thanked Steve on behalf of us all for all the hard work and dedication he has given to this Committee, serving as a member, secretary and treasurer. His good humour and dedication will be sorely missed.

No date was set for the next Meeting which should be in April, and include our Annual Meeting.

There being no further business the Meeting closed at 19.53.