

# SHIMPLING VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE MEETING

## Meeting Minutes – Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> Jan 2024

### 1. Present at meeting & apologies for absence:

Nathalie Brown Jenny Pine Bernard Essery and Carol Squire in attendance.

Apologies from Tina Campan, Jim Lucas and Liz Brunwin.

### 2. Minutes of the last meeting

- Minutes agreed

### 3. Chair's report & feedback from PC meeting

#### Village Hall report

We had a busy Christmas period with a kids party and Christmas film night (both were well attended) Wreath making, panto rehearsals, the PCC Christmas fair and end of year classes. Sadly, our Thursday evening yoga class will not be resuming in January but I hope to find a replacement soon.

We have a few exciting events planned for the coming year, including the Panto in March, Shimpling Celebrates in May and a fund-raising event in the summer.

#### Maintenance

The exterior overhead light has been replaced and we are awaiting a quote to repair the pillar lights.

The boiler in the kitchen has broken down and water heater in the ladies but repair is in hand.

Solar panels, double doors etc are on hold until lease renewal and funding is approved.

### 4. Financial update

- Current VH account position. Jenny reported that we remain in a good position with over £3000 in the account due to regular events income and fund raisers over the first 9 months. Discussed the film nights at which the attendance can be varied but agreed to continue. It still makes a profit even when the cost of the licence and electricity is considered so agreed to continue.  
The Halifax Trust have donated funds for the Panto – primarily for the payment of the musician and costumes.
- Proposed spending for 2024
  - **New step ladder** – agreed the current set are not fit for purpose. Jenny suggested that she could ask Lawrence / Ted if they could be made safer.  
In addition it was proposed and agreed that we would purchase and install a loft ladder to provide safer access to the mezzanine storage in the back store room.  
**Action:**  
Bernard informed the committee that there is a set of internal scaffolding that we could and probably should use to do any works at a height over 1.5 meters.  
**Action:** Bernard to make sure it is available when needed.
  - **Additional speakers.** Debated the value of a second pair of speakers and whether it would improve the sound in the hall. It was agreed that the acoustics were a problem with the hall being echoey and that probably needed an alternative (and more expensive) solution.  
**Action:** Nathalie agreed to speak to her son George and ask his expert opinion as to what the best way is forward.

Carol will check on the Deaf Charities websites to see if they have any recommended products.

- **Hot water heaters** – kitchen / Ladies loo. Agreed to replace these.

**Action:** SVH will purchase the items and then an electrician (Jenny to ask the electrician who is going to replace the driveway lights) to complete the electrical installation.

## 5. Hall bookings update – Carol

- Regular bookings - see events schedule.

Discussed the evening Yoga session and whether to look for another tutor. Decided to re visit this at the next meeting.

Discussed the films that we will show this coming year and agreed to show the ones we have identified and ask regular attendees which others they would like to see.

**Action:** Carol to redo the poster

- External / Private Bookings – 3 enquiries have been made and the hall is booked for the local elections in May.

**Action:** Carol will send Jenny the “Sales” spreadsheet at the end of each month.

## 6. Future VH Events:

- Children and Families activities and events

- PANTOMIME – 1<sup>st</sup> / 2<sup>nd</sup> March. Katie has the lead and has asked Carol for the village hall bank details so people can buy tickets and pay by BACS

**Action:** Carol to ask Katie if the poster has been done and if hard copy tickets will be needed. Tickets to be £10 per adult and £5 per child.

Nathalie has spoken with Sue Salmon about the need to put up the Marquee outside the hall by the side doors and she has not objected. The plan is to have the bar in the marquee and ticket desk by that entrance to the hall.

**Action:** Nathalie to buy the temporary bar licence. Will need volunteers to do the bar. Carol & Jenny volunteered to man the ticket desk and entry to the hall.

- EASTER Holidays – Discussed what if anything we wanted to put on. Last year we showed the film Lyle Lyle Crocodile – attendance was ok but not great. It was suggested that maybe. Make the hall open e.g. 2 afternoons each week for people to play table tennis to encourage use of the hall and potential bookings at other times.

**Action:** Carol to identify dates / times and advertise

- May Bank Holiday – Shimpling Celebrates Day. Agreed to stick with the late May bank holiday.

Discussed the cart race and how to persuade people to put in entries. It's a popular event for spectators but would be improved if more carts were entered. Bernard has video footage of past entrants and suggested using it on WhatsApp to generate interest.

The climbing tower, axe throwing, and tug of war were all very popular last year and it was agreed that they should be booked again.

**Action:** Tina to see if they are available on the date and book them.

Discussed food trucks – perhaps Jordy ice-cream and My Thai – Nathalie to check if they are available.

Needs further planning – to be discussed in detail at the next meeting.

- Digital / Tech session – not arranged yet.

**Action:** Bernard to pursue this when back from Skiing

- Income generating events for 2024

- Pantomime – 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2024 – **see above**

- Games or Cards evening – discussed what could be provided e.g. whist drive but decided not to pursue currently.
- Quiz – positive response to the last quiz but Vernon is potentially not available  
**Action:** Bernard volunteered to organise the quiz. Plan to hold in the autumn – October.
- Summer Dance – Alice Pawsey has suggested the 3<sup>rd</sup> August – she doesn't have any weddings booked that date and the R&R band are also available. Unfortunately the Hog Roast company are not available. It was suggested that Sarah be asked if she would be willing to cater the event. The Icecream truck was also popular so we agreed to approach them to come.  
Agreed to manage the event as we did last year except for SVH running the bar but keep the offer simpler – beer cider wine soft drinks. Ticket sales profits to be split 50:50 with Alpheton and bar profits to Shimpling. PCC to be asked to do a raffle with the proceeds going to the stain glass window repair appeal.  
**Action:** Bernard to speak to Sarah re catering. Nathalie to contact Jordy re the icecream truck being available. Liz to organise the raffle. Carol to ask David if he would run the bar with Matt.

**Extra Events :** 50/50 Spring Sale trail – SVH not involved in running event.

Silver workshops – popular last year so proposed to do another although they don't generate a lot of income for the hall – just the hire fee.

**Action:** Carol to contact Don and find out what workshops he is offering this year and then advertise to find out if there is interest.

## **7. Maintenance & improvement of the hall - 3 year rolling maintenance & refurbishment programme 2022-25.**

- Redecoration of Toilets and back-room redecoration – **on hold**
- Hall exterior – installation of double doors & solar panels – **on hold**
- General cleaning - Gutters – Jenny reported that the gutters need cleaning out and Nathalie felt the windows could do with cleaning as well. Bernard said he would do the gutters – he has done them before and would ask John Sinclair to clean the windows.

## **8. Health & Safety**

- External lights – on driveway – Jenny has contacted an electrician who has agreed to quote for the work of replacing the pillar lights on the driveway.
- Annual Fire evacuation drill – Bernard to organise a drill on a Sunday afternoon with the panto cast in February.

## **9. Any other business**

**Agreed to change the time of future meetings to 7pm**

**Dates of regular meetings:** 4th Monday of every other month at **7pm**

**2024**

22<sup>nd</sup> January

25<sup>th</sup> March

20<sup>th</sup> May – AGM

22<sup>nd</sup> July

23<sup>rd</sup> September

25<sup>th</sup> November