

## Corfe Village Hall – Minutes Thursday 8th August, 2024

Newton Lane, Corfe, Taunton, Somerset, TA3 7AQ

### 1. Roll Call / Apologies

Keith Gosling, Chris Brown, Nigel Furniss, Pip Hollins, Rob Smith, Emma Bowers.

Apologies – Ruth Pickles.

### 2. Chairman Vacancy

Andy Butler resigned as Chairman effective 1st July 2024. Sadly, no applications received but possibly because it was for a Chairman role. Keith Gosling (Treasurer) & Emma Bowers (Secretary) will jointly help on any Chairperson roles for the foreseeable. Rob Hudson has kindly offered to join the committee and help. The committee discussed and would welcome his support and will invite Rob to attend our next meeting to see what aspects he might be interested in helping out with going forwards.

### 3. Finances

Keith Gosling updated the committee that finances remain in a strong position. £500 costs incurred recently for painting & outdoor works (maintenance section below), approx £500 insurance (shared with PC), water rates & fire inspections. Income from the fair stalls & games was approx £500 which helps offset outgoings.

### 4. 100 Club

August winners are Ann Finchett (£50), Lorraine Winsey (£25), Ruth Pickles (£25). Next draw end of September.

### 5. Hall Bookings

Pop-Up Pub on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> August was well attended. Thank you to Chris George for bringing down his mobile bar Off Road on Tap and to Becky and the Dryad Gin team for providing a range of gin and cocktails. Chris Brown updated the committee that July bookings have been good. Seems to be more family use vs for children's parties. Currently 2 more pizza nights are confirmed with Andy @ Fiamma Pizza – which are Friday 27<sup>th</sup> September at 5:30 and Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October at 5:30, more will be booked in , including a regular slot for 2025.

***ACTION - EB to set up a rota for committee members to help on events / opening & closing of hall & collection of any excess rubbish***

### 6. Café

Continues to be well supported with approximately 35 customers (Thursday's) up to 60 (Saturday). The café raised approximately £300 during all day café on fair day. The kitchen and hall have recently been deep cleaned as part of the cleaning routines required of the café registration. No longer intending to serve bread – as there is now a local WhatsApp group organised by Hop House Bakery (Tracey & Darryn) which is working well for the community. Still selling out ice creams and cold drinks throughout remainder of the summer. Will be trailing selling flowers from local Yalham Hayes. Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> Sept for Corfe Community Trust sponsored café – buy a drink and get a cake for free! Café Steering team meeting later in Aug/Sept to discuss what we will use current accrued funds for – examples, tables/chairs & interior soft furnishing (pending any interior works in hall)

***ACTION - EB to prebook 2025 dates with CB so that 2 cafes per week doesn't occur; also amend Saturday café for 10:30 – 12:30***

7. **Maintenance** (Nigel)

All Recently Completed:

- a) Outside: damp course S/S beading repair & re-render
- b) Outside: painting wall
- c) Outside: gutter cleaning & antifungal spraying
- d) Outside: Rubble from carpark collected by PC
- e) Inside: New kitchen doorstep provided by Quilters
- f) Outside: Trees – B.Lenthall. Excellent job on trees, thank you Brian.

***ACTION - Village Hall Committee will discuss with Parish Council the option of a working party for hedges (KG)***

To Do:

- g) Outside: patio latch broken off again
- h) Outside: benches preservative & plastic feet
- i) Inside: window latches
- j) Inside: general freshen up / repaint (painting party – on hold)
- k) Digitisation of old photos
- l) Inside: Quote to reskim walls (Keith)

8. **Audio Visual** (Chris & Nigel)

NF has contact details of a second AV company (who have done work at Salvation Army in Exeter) and will ask for a quote. Rob Smith confirmed that grants are available but we need to submit firm specification quote alongside grant application, so we will do that once 2<sup>nd</sup> quote is back. Pip also confirmed that there are several corporate social funds that we should be able to apply for, once we have a quote. Both grants and social funding will be pursued for AV investment.

***ACTION – NF to obtain second quote (then RB Grant Applications & PH Social Fund Applications can follow-up)***

9. **Solar** (Pip)

Quote from solar company is approx £13,000 inc VAT. Next step is to complete a 'remote discovery document' required before any grants can be applied for. The Village Hall Committee are using a utility charity called Utility Aid to assist us in completing the documents so that grant applications can be pursued. Will look at recovering VAT on grants.

10. **Extension** (Nigel)

4 options are now being investigated, to solve for storage issues (so that shipping container can eventually be removed) as well as independent building that would be used for a small 'social room' to be used for small bookings or community events. In addition, the current internal storeroom would be reconfigured and optimised.

- (1) A medium self-contained extension 22ft wide x 14ft deep that would sit the other side of patio. It would have a 14 x 16ft social room & a 14 x 5 ft storage.
- (2) A 14 x 16ft social room standalone unit situated alongside patio, with an outdoor smaller separate metal storage unit alongside storeroom wall (where shipping container currently is). Metal storage unit needs to be about 3m wide in order to fit marquee poles, will look at 'off the shelf' solutions as well as bespoke.
- (3) An outdoor separate metal storage unit only and no social room.
- (4) Enquire with fire safety department to determine if Fire Exit is required or if modifications can be made to double patio doors so that they become the 'fire exit' if yes, then the current fire exit would be reconfigured to become a second attached storeroom to the hall.

***ACTION – various quotes are being obtained for the building and storage options for the above and then a community consultation meeting will take place to review best option.***

**11. AOB**

- a) Kitchen Itinerary Report – the committee discussed that the hall is advertised to cater for up to 80 but feedback is that we are short on some cutlery & crockery. ***ACTION - Pip has volunteered to do a stock count and estimate cost of replenishment /replacement.***
- b) Additional Parking Review per J. Haliday offer of leasing land. ***ACTION – Keith will discuss location proposal with John Haliday.***
- c) Charity Commission Access. ***ACTION – Andy Butler will advise of log on once available.***
- d) Charity Registration CIO vs current Charity. ***ACTION – NF to discuss with AB the options.***
- e) General Park Noise – concerns raised by resident – ***discuss possible actions with PC***
- f) Security of Toddlers – concern raised by a committee member – Keith discussed with Karla and she is happy with the security of the hall but will review again when Toddlers Club reconvenes after the summer holiday.
- g) Privacy for Shire House (next to hall) - explore suitable window coverings (reflective covering or frosted film) to ensure resident privacy from hall occupants

**12. Date of Next Meeting – Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> September, 7pm.**