

Garvald Village Hall Trust- Minutes of meeting 15th March 2023 - Hall 7.30pm

Present: Gary McGregor GM Chair, Brian Hills BH Treasurer, Shirley Evatt SE Secretary, Sarah Ramsay SR Trustee, Phillip White PW Chair of Garvald and Morham Community Council.

Apologies: Lee Robertson LR, Tom Edmonds TE, Richard Brand RB, James Mowat JM, Donald Sutherland DS

Minutes of the last committee meeting on 4th January were approved as a true and accurate account.

Committee Changes:

- Nothing to report.

Financial Report:

- BH confirmed current balances on Hall accounts as follows:
 - Treasurers: £354
 - Savings: £6,279
- Hall accounts to be signed off soon.
- Payment of £1000 recently made for Calor Gas.
- Smart Meter now installed.
- The Direct Debit has increased from £40 per month to £160 per month.
- BH to liaise with LR and look into getting device which will identify reason for higher useage.
- Insurance renewal is due in July 2023 (approx. £2000).
- The childrens' pop-up coffee afternoon raised £187 for Hall funds.

Booking Secretary Report:

- Full update provided by Elaine Macmillan – see attached.
- The Yoga class is continuing to prove popular.
- MB Arts, Community Council, Garvald Playgroup and the Mobile Post Office continue to use the hall on a regular basis.
- There is a new craft group using the hall on a regular basis.
- An enquiry has been received in relation to a potential new weekly dance class.

Cont'd.

- There is a wedding booked for 4th August 2023.
- GM reported that the Opera night was very successful.
- GM to contact the Opera company to ask for feedback on the hall and to understand how they came to choose the hall as a venue.
- The Jazz night is planned for 25th March 2023. The committee should encourage locals to come along.
- The Ladies' Supper Club may consider using the hall for future events.

Matters Arising:

- SE is expecting to receive the updated hall pack from RB with revised hire rates included. SE to upload to the Garvald website.
- The Garvald Memories evening is scheduled for Wednesday 29th March 2023. SR looking to borrow a projector for the evening.
- Caroline McGregor will record the evening for the UoE Oral Histories archive.
- Elaine Macmillan advised in her report that the WI-FI is still not working. She is pursuing Lothian Broadband.
- LR, with help from his son, repaired some blocked guttering and a leaky radiator.
- SE to continue to pursue suitable Contractors to provide quotes for the fabric repairs – to include roofing, stone repairs, cracking etc. PW advised that applying for Windfarm Community Funding should be considered to help with these essential works.
- Committee to consider alternative arrangements for future events during repair works. Regular users to be given notice.
- GM to check with Elaine Macmillan if there are any other weddings planned.

Any Other Business:

- BH to liaise with LR and look into getting device which will identify reason for higher useage.
- Committee to consider renewable options such as Solar panels/batteries, ground source heat pumps, and solar meadows as a means to reducing energy costs.
- **Date of next meeting Wednesday 24th May @ 7:30pm.**

Bookings Secretary Report – 15th March 2023

Dear all,

A quick update re bookings :

Regular users, Drama, Yoga and playgroup all invoiced monthly .

We have a new regular Craft group which starts this Thursday - fortnightly for two hours .

The Ladies Supper club is looking into cc funding and is hoping to make use of the hall again.

We have had an initial enquiry for local residents to run a weekly dance class.

The Post Office continues its weekly service and the Community Council used the hall for their February meeting .

We now have a wedding booked for August 4th this year - this was a new enquiry following the closure of the Strawberry Barn venue in Dunbar- and there is still a chance we might pick up a booking for this December.

We were used for Crystal Rig public consultation last month . They enjoyed using the hall & have indicated they will hire again.

We had another children's party hire this month.

The Scottish opera evening have just paid for their hire this week .

In April we have a two hour hire for a cycling group who will use the hall as a stop off for rest and lunch .

Jazz night tickets are selling slowly . It's been advertised again on Instagram and Kathleen is putting out another Garvald.org post . I've put out some fliers and will try some more this week and I know Gary has been advertising too. I'm a bit concerned folks have been put off by the Scottish opera covid super spreader theory !

Please can you come along / encourage folks to buy tickets . 20% of money raised goes to the hall funds. So far I've only got 36 takers - not all of whom have paid up yet .

Additionally, we thought of a fund raising raffle to boost the money . Any donations to the raffle would be really welcome.

The wifi is still not working . Initially I was told we had to wait for a part ; then I was told that the engineer who would complete the repairs needed to wait on his certification to allow him to work at height ! At that point I asked for a manager to contact me and that hasn't happened. I have been totally unimpressed by Lothian Broadband . We have been very lucky that we haven't lost any bookings and that the Post Office service doesn't rely on the hall wifi . However, it has meant I've had to manually set and check the heating for any non regular hire when I would normally control the heating via the app and we don't have cctv coverage.

Hope everyone well,

Elaine