

ALBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL [2021]

Minutes of the meeting of Albourne Parish Council (Village Hall Management Committee) - meeting as the Trustee of the Albourne Village Hall held on Tuesday, 30th November 2021 held via Zoom in the interests of safety.

Present: Councillor Graham Stafford (GS)
Councillor Jerry Butler (JB) (Acting Chairman)
Councillor Suzi Sawyer (SS)
Councillor Di Smith (DS)
Councillor John Drew (JD)
Mick Gratton (MG)

In attendance: Iain McLean (Parish Council Clerk); Jenny Gratton (VH Treasurer)

The meeting commenced at 7.00 p.m.

1. **Apologies for absence.** Tina Ware had sent apologies for absence, and there were no declarations of interest from Councillors.
2. **Approval of minutes of the previous meeting.** The minutes of the last meeting held on 28th September 2021 were formally approved by those present, and duly signed off as a true record by JB.
3. **Matters arising.** There were none, not otherwise covered on the Agenda and in these minutes.
4. **Membership – vacancy for a new Committee member.** The vacancy for the third co-opted member on the Committee still exists, and the efforts to fill it are ongoing. JB will try and progress the matter after Christmas.
5. **Domestic issues – Unwanted activity around the VH.** There are no reports, which the VHMC is aware of at the present time. There has been an incident with a car hitting the fence, which has been dealt with, and a minibus striking the Village Hall. This has caused some damage to a window. It is possible that the incident

was caught on CCTV. **Wi-fi Internet access.** JB has circulated 3 quotes, and is recommending the one from Plus-net. There is no phone line needed, but it does give unlimited Broadband. JB confirmed that the download/upload speeds should be sufficient, but will get more details. JB also confirmed the costs involved, and so it was proposed by JB and seconded by DS to recommend the Plus-net deal to the Parish Council at its meeting on 7th December, given that the principle of a 50/50 cost share has been agreed. The proposal was duly **RESOLVED**.

6. **Financial Statement.** The financial Statement provided by the Treasurer has been circulated, and is attached. On the EDF gas/electricity supply, costs are increasing substantially, and Jenny Gratton explained the option of switching to an extended supply given that the contract comes up for renewal in January. It was therefore proposed by DS and seconded by SS to take up the option. After discussion, it was **RESOLVED** unanimously to do so. On the proposed maintenance work to the Village Hall, Jenny referred to the quote received from Keymer Double Glazing. It was noted that there need to be two further quotes obtained, and GS said that he will try and find some appropriate contacts. It was generally agreed that where applicable, UvPC should be used. Welcome news is that the bank balance has gone up, which shows how the hirings have recovered since the Hall came back into use.
7. **Projects. Fascias and soffits.** This was dealt with as above. **Garage – replace or not – to decide appropriate recommendation to the Parish Council.** The Under 5s Group storage requirement for the garage is still an issue, and the clearance and rationalisation of the garage is ongoing. The VHMC should not keep the garage purely for Under 5s Group storage. The future storage requirements for the VHMC/PC remain uncertain, and there are different opinions on whether the garage should be replaced or not. It was noted that the Village Show is not likely to return in the foreseeable future. It is clear that given it is beyond economic repair, it needs to be demolished. After further discussion, it was proposed by JB and seconded by JD that the garage is demolished and not replaced for the time being, provided that it can be negotiated into the documented Agreement with MSDC that the option of replacing the garage remains open in the future. It was therefore **RESOLVED** to agree to the proposal with GS voting against. The Clerk will go back to MSDC accordingly. MG said that the matter would still need to be subject to how and when it is proposed to dispose of the various items in the garage, and this would come back as an Agenda item for the next meeting.
8. **Social Groups feedback. Albourne Arms.** There is no change currently. The pub still remains closed, in view of the ongoing situation, and the safety issues. It may be possible to look at opening in February 2022, depending on the circumstances at the time. There was a discussion on out-of-date drinks supplies and how this should be handled. DS has sorted and cleared out the fridge. **Future Events.** There are still none planned, given the ongoing uncertainty about re-opening, but in terms of the Queens Platinum Jubilee in June next year, it was

agreed that the Hall should be booked out for the weekend, so that the options can be kept open. It was noted that the bar/pub could be opened as a one off for any event that is safe to hold.

9. **Any other business.** There was none.

10. **Date of next meeting.** This was agreed for Tuesday, 22nd February 2022 at 7.00 p.m. (It was noted that the date is a perfect palindrome 22022022)

The meeting ended at 8.10 p.m.

SIGNED as a true record.....

Chairman

DATED.....2021