

ALBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL [2023]

Minutes of the meeting of Albourne Parish Council (Village Hall Management Committee) - meeting as the Trustee of the Albourne Village Hall held on Tuesday, 27th June 2023 in Albourne Village Hall.

Present: Councillor Di Smith (Chairman elect) (DS)
Councillor Suzi Sawyer (SS)
Councillor Shane Axtell (SA)
Mick Gratton (MG)
Tina Ware (TW)

In attendance: Iain McLean (Parish Council Clerk) (attending by Zoom); Jenny Gratton (VH Treasurer) and one member of the public.

The meeting commenced at 7.00 p.m.

- 1. Chairman.** This being the first meeting of the new municipal year, nominations were sought for the office of Chairman of the Committee for the year 2023/4. Cllr SS proposed **Cllr Di Smith**, and this was seconded by Cllr SA. There being no other nominations, it was duly **RESOLVED** that Councillor **Di Smith** be unanimously elected to serve as Chair of the Committee for the municipal year 2023/4. However, it was decided not to elect a Vice Chair at the present time.
- 2. Apologies for absence.** An apology for absence was received from Councillor Imelda Spencer, and there were no declarations of interest from Councillors.
- 3. Committee vacancies.** It was noted that Cllr John Spencer has offered to take up the fifth Councillor place on the Committee, and it is expected that his appointment to the Committee will be confirmed at the Parish Council meeting on 4th July 2023. It was also reported that there may be a couple of people interested in being co-opted onto the Committee in order to take up the third co-opted place. If so, there will need to be a selection process.
- 4. Approval of minutes of the previous meeting.** One issue arose in connection with the minute referencing the change to a cost of a pint of beer at the Pop-up-Pub. It was understood that it should be £3-50 a pint, not £3-60. For the

sake of clarity it was therefore proposed by Cllr DS and seconded by MG that the cost of a pint should be £3.50, and this was unanimously **AGREED**. Subject to that revision, the minutes of the last meeting held on 28th March 2023 were formally approved by those present, and duly signed off as a true record by Cllr DS.

5. **Matters arising.** There were none not otherwise on the Agenda.
6. **Domestic issues – Unwanted activity around the VH.** There are again no reports that the VHMC is aware of at the present time, but it was agreed to keep the item on the Agenda, so as to ensure the matter is kept under review.
Electrical work. This has all been completed. However, Cllr SA mentioned that the pay machine for the Pop-up-Pub had broken down. This is being looked into, with a view to hopefully resolving the problem soon. **Decoration.** There are areas of the Hall that need doing. These are around the toilet and cloakroom areas, the skirting boards, the dados and dado rails, and some areas of the ceiling. Cllr DS and Jenny Gratton will take this forward in terms of seeking the three quotes for the work including from a local decorator.
7. **Financial Statement.** The financial Statement provided by the Treasurer has been circulated, and is attached.
8. **Projects. Garage current status and garage contents and their future.**
MG and Jerry Butler have made good progress in clearing out the garage, and the Under 5s have also dealt with their items. The folding tables need to be moved into the Hall, and the old trestle tables are being removed to alternative storage, but will still be available for use as required. The old chairs need to be sold, and this was agreed. MG will therefore action the matter. Finally, MG reminded the Committee that the cost of demolishing the garage, given the presence of some asbestos, would be around £2-3K, and the matter still needs to be formally documented with MSDC at the appropriate time.
9. **Social activities. Albourne Arms (Pop-up Pub).** There will be an urgent need to review alcoholic beverage prices, once the impact of the revisions to the wholesale prices filter through, given the duty charges that are taking place. This may need to be done in correspondence. **King Charles III Coronation.** This had been a very successful event on 6th May, despite the inclement weather on the day, and JG has reported fully on the outturn costs of the event as above. **Future Events.** It was reported that there is a proposal to resurrect the Village Show or similar event on 16th September 2023, and the recent communication with Geoff Zeidler was referred to. It being proposed by Cllr DS and seconded by MG, the Committee **AGREED** in principle to support the event in terms of the costs, the provision of the Hall (subject to availability), the pop-up-pub, and licensing arrangements. The Committee asked the Clerk to request the organisers to submit a detailed request and proposal for further consideration, and it will bring forward the date of its next meeting in order to progress this idea.

10. Any other business. (i) Cllr DS mentioned that she has been approached about a Harvest Festival event being organised for the 10th September, and whether the VHMC could give its support. It was noted that the event is for a local charity. It was therefore agreed that the Hall (subject to availability) could be used free of charge, and that whilst the bar could be used (subject to there being a sufficient number of trained staff), the organisers should provide their own drinks and refreshments, from which all the profits could then be donated directly to the Charity. However, the Hall could make some of its spare glasses available if required. (ii) TW mentioned a request to install a retractable shade or awning over the play area outside the Hall, and subject to the Clerk checking the Lease in order to ensure that no formal consent was required from the Landlord (MSDC), this was agreed by the Committee in principle. (iii) Cllr SA mentioned the issue of the fallen fence still encroaching from a neighbouring property onto the Village Hall land, and the Clerk will action this again by taking the matter up with the owner/tenant of the property.

11. Date of next meeting. This was agreed for Tuesday, 29th August 2023 at 7.00 p.m. in the Village Hall, and DS will book the Hall.

The meeting ended at 8.15 p.m.

SIGNED as a true record.....

Chairman

DATED.....2023