

BRERETON AND RAVENHILL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Hall Management Committee held at the Parish Hall, Ravenhill Park, Brereton, on Wednesday, 7th February 2018.

Present

Councillors R Easton [Chairman], K Ansell, Mrs DM Easton and Mrs G Harvey.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mrs P Ansell, Miss IJ Brown, H Farnath, Miss C Harvey, GN Molineux and Mrs HJ Southwell.

Mr PG Davies [Parish Clerk] was also present.

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were given at the commencement of the meeting.

2. MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting held on 10th January 2018, be approved and signed as a correct record.

3. PARISH HALL – PROGRESS REPORT

Hire Fee Income – Update

The Committee noted details of hire fee income for December 2017 and January 2018.

Kitchen Fund

The Clerk reported that £3,765.84 remained in the Kitchen Fund.

Following the invitation to hirers of the kitchen to offer suggestions for future improvements, one response had, to date, been received requesting the reinstatement of the paper towel dispenser.

The Committee considered the possibility of transferring £1,765.00 from the Kitchen Fund to the general Parish Hall Fund to facilitate further improvements in the building. In this regard, the Chairman undertook to investigate the cost of providing twenty new chairs for the Conference Room.

RESOLVED

1. That the Finance and Management Committee be recommended to authorise the transfer of the funds.
2. That the Clerk arrange for the reinstatement of the paper towel dispenser.

Seating Fronting Parish Hall

The Committee considered the possibility of either removing or relocating the table and chair feature immediately in front of the Parish Hall. Such action would deter instances of nuisance and anti-social behaviour, including the drinking of alcohol in an area immediately fronting the building.

The Committee acknowledged that for the benefit of the whole community, it would be preferable to retain the seating for the time being and review the situation on a regular basis.

The Chairman did indicate, however, that he would arrange to improve the lighting at the front of the building in order that any instances of anti-social behaviour would be more easily captured on CCTV.

4. BRERETON CARNIVAL

BRACE had requested the use of the Parish Hall Function Room, kitchen and bar area for this year's carnival which would be held on 14th July 2018.

RESOLVED

That the request from BRACE be approved and that a basic charge of £75.00 be made for the use of the facility.

5. NEWMAN GROVE ALLOTMENTS

The Chairman welcomed Mr Jim Cusack and Mr Rob Paul to the meeting.

The Committee discussed the following matters relating to the new building structure which had been sited at the allotments:-

-  Ownership
-  Safety
-  Insurance
-  Visits to the new facility

The allotment holders advised that an adjacent allotment holder to the new structure was enquiring as to the cost of including the building in his own insurance.

The Committee noted that school children visiting the site were covered under the school's own Public Liability insurance.

The Clerk undertook to ascertain the cost of the Parish Council insuring the building and he would report back thereon to the next meeting.

The Chairman thanked Mr Jim Cusack and Mr Rob Paul for attending the meeting.

6. CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

The Chairman welcomed Mr David Lusty from Lighting Futures to the meeting.

The Clerk advised that the five-year contract with Lighting Futures had expired in January 2018 and the Committee were invited to consider how they wished to proceed going forward.

The Chairman expressed some disappointment with the standard of the recent displays and he hoped that these would be improved in future years.

Mr Lusty, in noting these comments, assured Members that he would make every effort to meet the Parish Council's expectations. He undertook to send the Clerk a brochure setting out different types of features for the Parish Council to choose the style, design and colour for future years.

The Chairman indicated that the Parish Council would be proposing to provide 25 lighting features, an increase from the 22 for this year.

Mr Lusty was asked to provide an indication of costings to enable the Parish Council to decide whether to renew the contract. He would also include a price for fitting digital timers

to the columns.

7. FINANCE REPORT

The report of the Clerk on the financial position of the Parish Hall as at 31st December 2017, was submitted for information and noted.

8. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED

That the next meeting be held on 7th March 2018, at 7.30 p.m.

[Chairman]