

BRERETON AND RAVENHILL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Hall and Property Management Committee held at the Parish Hall, Ravenhill Park, Brereton, on Thursday, 7th April 2022.

Present

Alderman R Easton [Chairman], Councillors Mrs DM Easton, Mrs G Harvey, JC Harvey, Miss C Hodgkiss and Mrs L Johnson.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mrs P Ansell, K Ansell and DR Johnson.

Mrs R Davies [Clerk to the Committee], Sylvia Gibson [Parish Clerk] and Mr J Smith [Caretaker/Administrator] were also present.

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest given at the commencement of the meeting.

2. APOLOGIES

Listed above.

3. MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting held on 3rd March 2022, be approved and signed as a correct record.

4. MATTERS ARISING

Water Rates

The Parish Hall had received an excessive bill for water used for the last six months. It had been understood that there may have been a leak but this was not the case. Alderman Easton stated that the Parish Hall water useage included the outside toilet and the park keeper's toilet. The Clerk was asked to send a letter to Mr Tom Walsh [Parks and Open Spaces Manager] to request that, in future, portaloos are provided by the District Council when the park is used for extra events, ie Brereton Million, Circus, Fairs, Brereton Carnival etc. to help keep the cost down of the Parish Hall's water bills.

Paddling Pool

The Committee Clerk was asked to contact Tom Walsh regarding the re-opening of the paddling pool in the park. The Committee were in agreement that a good time would be the Whitsun holidays.

The two District Councillors, PA Fisher and G Molineux would also be asked to consult the Council to try to expedite the re-opening of the paddling pool.

Bar

Discussion took place regarding the equipment in the bar which had been left by the Miners Arms.

RESOLVED

1. That the Committee Clerk contact the Miners Arms to ask if any of the bar equipment was needed and, if so, to request that it be collected as soon as possible.
2. That the Licensee be thanked for the bars that she had provided in the past.

5. NEWMAN GROVE ALLOTMENTS

The Committee Clerk reported on an email she had received from the Estates Office at the District Council in reply to a letter she had sent regarding the land outside the gate to Newman Grove allotments. The Housing Maintenance Manager had recently inspected the site and had advised that approximately 5 no.3x2 slabs would be laid to the area by the District Council. It was felt that this would not solve the problem outside the gate.

RESOLVED

That the Committee Clerk contact the Estates Department with a view to arranging a site visit with the Housing Maintenance Manager at the District Council to discuss the best course of action with regard to the area outside the gate to the Newman Grove allotments.

6. PARISH HALL PROGRESS REPORT

✚ **Water Rates**

Situation with regard to excessive water bill discussed in Matters Arising.

✚ **Cathedral Leasing**

The Committee Clerk reported on the discussion she had recently had with Cathedral Leasing. A contract had been taken out in 2021 for 5 years, ie £374.40 per year, including VAT. To cancel the contract would cost £936.00 plus VAT. It was confirmed that a discount was not possible in view of rising costs and the loss of revenue for Cathedral Leasing during Covid.

RESOLVED

That Cathedral Leasing be contacted with a view to obtaining a copy of the contract.

✚ **Hire Fees Update**

The fees collected up to 31st March 2022, amounted to £11,554.67.

7. QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE

It was agreed by all Members of the Committee that a budget for bunting, etc. should be set at £75.00. The purchase of new Union Jacks should also be included in the amount agreed.

8. FINANCE REPORT

The report presented by John Smith, showing the income and expenditure of the Parish Hall as at 7th April 2022, was submitted for information and noted.

9. FURNISHING THE KITCHEN

The Parish Clerk tabled the following:-

"To consider taking a resolution to furnish the kitchen with equipment to create a bar at a cost of approximately £2,000."

There seemed to be some confusion as to the cost because at a previous meeting of the Committee, the cost to assemble the bar was quoted as "up to £800.00".

The Committee also discussed other jobs that needed to be done in the kitchen:-

- ⬇ Repair of floor [quotes need] – Councillor Mrs L Johnson to obtain these.
- ⬇ Obtain lights for kitchen [2] – approximately £40.00 to £60.00 each.
- ⬇ Painting of door

10. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED

That the next meeting be held on Thursday, 12th May 2022, at 7.30 p.m.

[Chairman]