

Ordinary Meeting

7 February 2023 6pm Venue – The Beeches

Agenda & Minutes

- 1. Welcome – thanks to Mike and Ali for hosting at the last minute
- 2. Apologies for absence – Alice and Jon were unable to make the meeting
- 3. Minutes – January 2023 – no changes required

- 4. Matters arising

AGM – 16th May agreed.

AGM – we agreed that the detail handed over to us on how to prepare for the AGM (thanks Leila) is an excellent overview of what is required.

- 5. Reports
 - a. Refurbishment news and progress: big thanks to John and Brian for continuing to lead this extensive project.

Work is really starting to take shape now, with the kitchen fitted most recently which looks amazing. Further work continues in Store Room 1, with works in the Main Hall almost finished. The toilets work will continue soon: thanks to Mike O'Brien and Mike Cunningham for the preparation work conducted on a voluntary basis recently. Electrical work will restart (2nd fix) early in March, then when this is completed the flooring can be fitted.

- b. Grant application news – thanks Di for championing recent progress

The Wye Valley AONB grant visited recently and met with Di and Brian (thanks both). We are optimistic that some funds may be granted to us for restoration purposes; quotes are being gathered (thanks Brian) to enable the application to be submitted (thanks Di). When we have an idea of what we will be given, we can then consider what works to embark on (which is likely to need further fundraising, to compliment the grant). In summary, we have been offered to apply for a total of £3,000. From committee discussions and the AONB representative, suggestions are: replacement front entrance doors, boundary stone wall repair, signage above front hall door and side external replacement door to kitchen.

We will be applying for a Pebble Fund grant too, and various quotes are being gathered to that end currently, so that we can also apply for further funds for future refurbishment (e.g. upgrade of toilets).

- c. Communications – thanks Ali for leading publicity and progress

Posters are going up ready for the Coronation Opening Event, to be held on Sunday 7 May. 'Buy a Brick' and 'Corporate Sponsorship' displays are being made, so that these can be installed prior to the opening event.

Signage for the front of the building is also being considered.

- d. Treasurer – thanks Mike for leading this labour-intense workload

Please refer to the latest report, published on the website.

- e. Maintenance updates (if not covered in earlier sections)

Please let us know if you would like to be part of a gardening sub-committee – it would be good to kick this off before the Spring approaches.

- f. Events sub-committee / plan

The next meeting will be at 7pm on Friday 24th February. We have 2 parish council members on the team, focusing on creating the coronation event, and a myriad of interested local parties (thanks Cake Club members and BAcRG too).

Ali is leading this team to involve local providers of refreshments for the event as well as gathering ideas including games and crafts. If you're not involved already and would like to be, please contact Ali, we welcome volunteers to make village events as inclusive as possible.

Other events have also now been planned to occur during 2023 and can be viewed on the calendar on the website.

Given that the Hall will be open in May, we are now starting to liaise with those enquiring to make bookings in the Hall.

In the meantime, we will be contacting the local council to let them know that the Hall will be available for local election voting, and liaising with John S in the village regarding the Herefordshire Art week too.

- g. Sustainability sub-committee / plan

Various ideas discussed in terms of next steps and village involvement. We will review again when Jon returns.

- 6. AOB

Quotes for curtains and blinds are currently being sourced (thanks Ali).

In future phases, perhaps a modern shutter for the hatch area could be installed.

We are now starting to consider various approvals required following the refurbishment works, and in anticipation of the opening. Hayley to contact Leila, who previously had researched some licencing options.

- 7. Date of next meeting – March 7th, Tuesday, 7pm