

**OEast Farndon Village Hall**  
**Committee meeting**  
**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2023**  
**7.45pm**

**MINUTES**

**Apologies:**

Laurel Curtis, Rosie O'Connor, Jess Oakden, Elaine Pepler, Paul Jeanneret, Carly Jeanneret

**Present:**

Paul Hodgetts, John Duke, Jo Shaw, Teresa White, Anthea Bartram, Sam Beesley

**Previous minutes review and agreement:**

These were distributed and agreed.

**Actions review:**

Actions outstanding: bin painting SB, freezer purchase JS

**Finance:**

- Treasurer's report
  - Changeover of Treasurer and signatories is complete for MHBS. Paperwork for both accounts now complete.
  - We are working on electronic transfer between accounts rather than a chequing account with MHBS.
  - Paul Jeanneret to complete last year's accounts and submit by 31<sup>st</sup> December.
  - Decrease year to date but we have paid a deposit for solar panels (£4526.88). Balance is payable in January upon completion.
- *Warm Spaces Grant 2024* (by 1<sup>st</sup> March 2024) This is now available to apply for, but we need to have regular opening times, which is difficult to do with volunteers and regular hirers. Our maximum grant would be £500 but it is not guaranteed that we would be able to achieve this. The consensus was that it was not worth applying for this year. We decided to liaise with Parish Council as to whether this was workable with volunteers.
- *New Energy Efficiency Funding* scheme: opens January 2024. Last time we were eligible to apply but would be unlikely to get it as we have funds. To be reviewed at a later meeting, regarding upgrading to energy efficient lighting or heating.

**Fabric and facilities:**

- Solar panels update: These have been installed but are yet to be switched on. PH to build a wooden frame to protect the battery. Big switch on is around 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024 when the meter is installed. We have also had to revamp the phasing to fit an isolator switch via EON.
- Should we consider installing electric car charging points?

- On consultation with ACRE, this proves to be a complicated legal and administrative process. We decided not to go ahead with this currently, pending a possible change in legislation and available grants in the future.
- Tap repair: A big thank you was extended to Tony White for repairing the disabled toilet taps which were leaking, as well as doing numerous repairs throughout the year.
- Extension of cleaning hours/new cleaner: We are now having two hours pw cleaning, spread over two days (changeable due to VH schedule). We are looking into paying direct from the bank account but currently JS and SB pay the cleaner direct and are refunded by JD.
- Roof clock: It stopped a few weeks ago. We will endeavour to fix this after the electrics for the solar panel installation are completed.
- Insulation strip on front door: JS to look into replacing this.

#### Events etc:

- Social committee report (attached)
  - **Curry Night** feedback- the focus will be on appetizers next time rather than full meals. Considered limiting numbers to 50 for sit down meals with a waiting list for cancellations, one point of contact, and trying to block out bookings the next morning to allow time to clear up.
  - **Christmas Soiree** Sat 9<sup>th</sup> December: this is now organised. Setup just before 6pm, doors open 6.30pm.
- **Chinese New Year Sat 10<sup>th</sup> Feb 2024:** to be discussed at next social committee meeting. JS to apply for a TEN. Games to be organised.
- **Fish and Chip supper/DDay 80** 6<sup>th</sup> June 2024. This is not a village hall event- it is promoted by the Parish Council. We have placed an order already with Blue Wave based on 50 people. Cost tbc. As it's an event similar to Remembrance, we decided to charge tickets based on covering costs alone. British Legion to be asked for collection buckets/shakers for any donations. We decided on BYO drink rather than a bar.
- **Quiz Night Sat. April 13<sup>th</sup>:** Save the date. JS to apply for a TEN.
- Commemoration of old Village Hall 29<sup>th</sup> Feb 1924: local history display- maybe at the BBQ? JS to ask Alan Langley to coordinate it.
- **BBQ date: Sat 24<sup>th</sup> August 2024:** save the date. JS to apply for TEN.

#### Other issues and actions:

- Bimonthly meetings: PH suggested we change to bimonthly meetings because the social committee are also meeting separately each month. This was agreed, with the next meeting to be February 2024.
- Pantomime package 2024: JS to consult with Clipston and Marston Trussell about possibilities for collaboration and we decided to run a bar to help cover costs. JS to ask for available weekend dates from LOL Theatre Co.
- Rescheduling AGM to 11<sup>th</sup> April: JS to book the hall with EP.

- Remuneration of Bookings Secretary: We decided, in consultation with EP, to continue on the current basis of it being a voluntary office until further notice.

**AOB:**

- **What is “Ask Aimee”?** This is an initiative started by a resident for befriending other villagers who need support. It is a group independent of the PC and Village Hall, of volunteers who make themselves available to help villagers to attend village events.
- There was a plea from SB for people to join the “Fabulous Farndon” Whatsapp group, to keep residents informed of events.

Meeting closed 8.50pm

**Date of next meeting:**

*Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2024.*

*A happy new year to everyone!*