

Glatton Village Hall Committee Meeting
30th June 2020

Present: Terry Brignall, Jane Brignall, Stephen Smith, Lisa Smith

Apologies: Paul Williams

Welcome by the chair

Terry opened the meeting at 4pm and welcomed the committee.

Minutes

The minutes of the minutes from the last meeting held on 21st January 2020 were signed as a true record of proceedings.

Re-opening of vhall during Covid 19

JB has already emailed the main user groups to ascertain their requirements during this uncertain period we are in. She has only heard from the aerobics group who are unable to make a decision until at the earliest September. Others Groups have not responded but it is unlikely that the line dancing group will also be unable to restart not restart in the foreseeable future as many of the members fall into the more vulnerable group of over 70's. The Tang Su Do Group work in close proximity of each other. Bearing this in mind, with no future bookings at present we have agreed the village hall will remain closed until further notice but will be kept under constant review and we will be following Government Guidelines. Our insurers will keep the vhall covered for closure until 31/8, after this date we will need to inform them of our status i.e. intention to re-open or remain closed. We will hopefully be in a better position of knowing our vhall user groups plans on restarting their classes again closer to September and a better idea of when to open our doors again.

It was agreed to change the door lock and only issue a key to the committee members whilst we are closed, this is to stop unauthorised entry into the building so we know that everything is still clean and safe, once things go back to normal we can then issue additional keys to the main user groups.

We will hold our AGM on the 6th July at the vhall with social distancing measures but this will be the only event whilst closed. The Caribbean evening in September will be postponed.

JB is going to inform the water board and insurers of our decision to remain closed at this time.

Structural Survey and Community Survey of vhall

TB has published the results of both the Structural/Condition Survey and the Community Survey on the Glatton website and has notified the Parish Council. The VH Committee acknowledged the importance of both surveys and endorsed both reports as critical evidence to inform future work regarding the way ahead and also in support of any future funding and planning applications.

Whether future work points toward refurbishing or rebuilding the vhall, it is likely to be a 5 - 10 year project. The Building/Condition Survey and the Community Survey form a sound basis upon which to move on to the next stage of identifying and costing options culminating in a presentation of findings, conclusions and recommendations to Glatton residents at an Open Meeting at an appropriate future date.

The Village Hall Committee agreed the concept of establishing an "Action Group" to move the project the next phase and beyond to final conclusion. The "Action Group" would NOT form part of the Village Hall Committee and would have no Trustee or decision-making powers.

TB has identified several residents with key skills and experience and will approach them to ascertain their willingness to join the "Action Group".

TB has done some research already with a couple of roofing contractors and a copy of each is enclosed with these minutes. As a brief summary one very well recognised firm has said based on the evidence in his 30-year experience he would recommend demolishing and replacing the building. The other has given an indication of around £44,000 to strip, strengthen and replace the asbestos roof, however this does not take into account all the other works and issues that need to be done with the building that is listed in the structural survey.

TB has also written and spoken with the Charities Commission and ACRE Cambs to seek guidance about the inclusion of a "dissolution Clause" in our Governing Document in case the vhall (the charity) was forced into closure either because the building was condemned, beyond repair, could not meet a funding requirement or failed to form a governing committee. No response has yet been received from the Charities Commission legal department.

Everyone has agreed to the formation of an "Action Group" and JB will set up a separate bank account for a fundraising rebuild/refurbish fund.

AOB

JB has bought a rubberised ramp for the front door to allow wheelchair access.

The chimney in the vhall is not safe for use and LS to make a sign to put up next to it.

TB & JB have weeded the paved area in front of the village hall which had become extremely overgrown and cut back the honeysuckle which had come away from the trellis in the high winds. The weeds still need spraying again on both front and back of vhall which is extremely overgrown. LS to ask if PW if he would kindly spray with his weed killer within the next week or so.

It was agreed to not spend any money on renewing the heaters in the vhall at present, all heaters are safe and in good working order and unless something goes wrong with them we will wait and change them when we know what the outcome of the rebuild/refurbish will be.

JB informed us that the cleaner has not been in or been paid since March wages due to lockdown. It was agreed to pay her a retainer of £20 a month and backdate to April as we do not want to lose her services when the hall reopens again.

Date of the next meeting - AGM 6th JULY

The meeting ended at 18.10pm