

DOWN ST MARY VILLAGE HALL
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON
22nd JANUARY, 2018

- Present:** Alan Clarke, Anthony Martin, Tessa Pluck, Audrey Cooke, Denise Appleyard, Nigel Fidock and David Cooper
- Minutes:** The minutes of the meeting held on the 4th December, 2017 were shared, read and agreed.
- Treasurers Report:** Nigel supplied an up to date Treasurer's report. Alan asked whether the accounts were in a healthier state than last and it was noted that they were approximately £1000 better. Nigel informed the committee that the insurance premium is due in June which amounts to £620, this figure to be held for next 2 years and we obtained a reduction due to the fact that the policy was taken out for 3 years. A vote of thanks was given to Nigel for doing the accounts. David Cooper noted that we had bought Gordon and Janet a voucher for organising the race night and said that was the least we could do to show our appreciation.
- Matters Arising:** Nigel mentioned that we are awaiting a bill from Andie for the repair of the bulbs outside the Village Hall.
- Chair's Comment:** Alan informed the committee that it was National Village Hall week. Audrey noted that Anthony had sent out details of this. Alan said that by raising the profile of Village Halls, it could have ongoing repercussions for the benefit of all Village Halls.
- Christmas Event:** Tessa informed the committee that the Christmas event held on the 16th December, 2017 made a profit of £330.52. Alan was surprised at the number of people that attended the event and a vote of thanks was given to Anthony for being such a good Father Christmas. The event was discussed in great detail noting alterations that could be made to improve the event next year. These suggestions have been filed by Tessa and Denise for reference next year. David Cooper gave a vote of thanks to the committee for organising such an enjoyable event. Tessa thanked Nigel for supplying the Christmas presents for Father Christmas.

The contribution of collecting the tree by Will Jones, erecting and dismantling the tree by David & Chris Vennelle and the digging of the hole by Paul Roberts were discussed. It was noted that we could either make a donation to Farming in Crisis or send letters of thanks to all of them. It was decided to send letters of thanks as it was felt they gave their services to enhance Village Hall funds. Nigel mentioned that it

might be prudent to concrete around the pipe holding the Christmas tree in place to eliminate the amount of movement caused by the wind. The members of the Parish Council attending, ie Alan, Anthony and David, said they would bring it up at the next Parish Council meeting and point out that the hole could be used to site a flag pole in the future.

Audrey mentioned that the Rotary Club in Okehampton had a sleigh and wondered if they hired it out. This to be investigated.

Future Events:

Tessa informed the committee that Chris Hampton of Bearnas is delighted to return to do another Antiques Evening. This has been set for Friday, 14th September, 2018 at 7 pm and the price of tickets will be decided at next meeting. Last year the price was £8 for glass of wine/beer, cheese and 2 valuations. Just cheese and wine was £5. Extra valuations were charges at £2 per item.

After discussion, it was decided that the Skittle Evening would be held on Friday, 2nd March, 2018 at 7 pm. We would provide pies and quiche as refreshments with the usual bar. Tickets to cost £6. David Cooper very kindly volunteered to do the posters, flyers and tickets for the skittle evening.

Summer Fayre:

The summer fayre was discussed in great detail and the date fixed was the 9th June, 2018. Nigel asked about somebody to open it and Denise suggested Daphne Larter being the oldest resident in Down St. Mary at 97 years. The opening of the fete was to be prior to the barbeque starting or any of the stalls opening. After considerable discussion, it was decided to go for an 'old fashioned fayre' where there were games played which children and adults could join in together. Nigel suggested a busker from Exeter and Tessa to ask Kath to arrange fire engine and see if the Hospice Choir was free on that date. Pat Solly did a treasure hunt last year and Denise to ask if she would repeat it this year. Audrey suggested a wild fowl demonstration. Face painting, bean bag throwing, craft demonstration, tug of war, cans on string, welly throwing, races ie three legged, egg and spoon were suggested. Everybody to do research on old fashioned games before next meeting.

Any Other Business: Nigel said Nat West to shut in Crediton in June, 2018 and proposed that for the time being, we stay with NHBC and review later to see whether to change to Lloyds in Crediton.

NEXT MEETING:

MONDAY, 12th FEBRUARY, 2018 AT 7.30 P.M.