

LEVENS INSTITUTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday 5 September 6.30pm in main hall

Present Fiona Sanders Alan Miller Helen Miller Hugh Connor, Chris Riley, Susie Bagot John Wood and Nicola Beard

Apologies received from, Janet Mason Robyn Atkinson & Sheila Watson

Minutes. Had been sent out and were approved by all.

Matters arising Covered by Agenda

Chair's Report.

Treasurers Report.

Nicola had received BACS payment but unable to allocate them to the users. She asked if H & A and herself could get together with a list of users and organisation would help. This was agreed.

Nicola reported that the: -

Revised surplus was £3569

Room hire was down on expected to August from £5100 to £4334 but booking look to be improving.

Water costs increased on expected to August from £533 to £718 and could continue to be higher if booking are up

Building maintenance costs down from £666 to £472 and look to remain lower than annual budget.

So overall things still looking positive for a surplus at years end.

Regarding the increase in water costs Alan wondered if it might be a leak in the disabled toilet. Hugh (Keith) offered to look at the problem.

It was agreed to move some of the building maintenance costs to the cleaning account as this related to the "tidy Day "expenditure.

Electricity

This had been discussed in several e mails and in the end weighing up all the pros and cons OPUS ENERGY had been chosen.

Bookings.

Helen and Alan reported that booking to Christmas numbered 126 events with several enquiries from other groups.

TREES PRUNING

Hugh added that he had asked Lawrence, at Walnut tree about pruning trees because the beech nut husks were blocking the gutters and causing overflow when it rained.

ROOM HIRE INCREASE IN CHARGES?

This raised points for an increase and against.

For If a small increase each year groups would accept this as prudent.

Several groups had moved to Levens either their initial venue was closed or prices had increased.

Against Danger that groups may look elsewhere. A small price increase had been added in January 2023.

It was agreed to review at November meeting which would be in time for increase if needed for January 2024.

VILLAGE Hall Lowgate UPDATE JOHN WOOD

John explained that the back wall had been completed but that rendering would be done later as part of the major build.

Electricity.

The complications with the cost and direction from Church Rd to the village hall in Lowgate still was ongoing. The cost had risen from £29,000 to £75,000 but it was now hoped that negotiation had brought the price down to the region of under £20,000. The cable may well be located down the path rather than church grounds. It was hoped that a path from St. John's car park down to the hall was still viable. Other matters mentioned were charging points and solar panels but these were future development connected with the actual building of village hall.

John was thanked for his update.

Activities

Hugh was looking into the hall being used for film nights however it was a very involved and financially delicate situation. You need a licence to show films at least £100 (plus other costs) you need an alcohol licence if you wish to sell alcohol to increase your takings. The hall is limited by numbers therefore ticket prices need to cover the cost A possible option, but not easily administrated is to form a film club of registered members. Hugh would continue his research.

Fiona thanked everyone for their attendance and the meeting finished at 7.40pm.

Next meeting 6.30 Tuesday Nov 7

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