**SPARKFORD VILLAGE HALL**

**MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD 5 OCTOBER 2017**

**Present**: Trevor Tuck Chairman

Alison Roylance Treasurer Helen Skinner Secretary

Victoria Rogers, Marian Hemborough, Shirley Hoskins, Julia Clasby

**Apologies**: Scott Gibbons, Mike Lewis

**Matters arising**

Alison said there had been an extra bill of £47.52 for the gate for cement for the post. Pipers had paid this and been reimbursed by the Hall.

Small tables -Trevor said it would probably be worth pursuing Tim Cook as the grants money tends to get used up quite quickly.

Alison commented that Hall funds are in a very healthy situation at the moment with £6139 in the Business Account and £3000+ in the Current Account, a reflection of the success in attracting new groups of Hall hirers. She wondered, in the event of a new Hall being built, whether small groups would be able to afford the higher rates that inevitably would need to be charged. There was a brief general discussion on how a new Hall could be designed to improve facilities and how such a project could benefit from the Community Infrastructure Levy which the three new large developments in the village will be subject to, also possibly get Lottery Sports England funding if the Cricket Club was involved.

**Rotary Club raffle**

The Hall has been invited to take part in the raffle again this year but in view of the difficulty of finding a convenient way to sell the tickets it was decided the Hall would organise its own fund raising event and hold a Cheese, Wine and Mince Pies evening, including a raffle, on Friday 24th November. A meeting to discuss the details will be held on Thursday

9th November.

**Meter**

Alison said there had been a few further problems with the meter but these have now been sorted out. A lower rate for electricity has been set and it now takes £2 coins as well.

**Hall floor**

Alison said she had had an introductory letter from a company called Total Floor Care offering to give a free site survey and estimate for treatment. It was agreed that after the consistent heavy use by the Playgroup the floor was in need of some restorative work and Alison said she would contact them to arrange a visit, liaising with Victoria on a convenient date.

**Car park**

Alison said the buyers of the whole parcel of land where the 3 homes are to be built and which includes the car park do not want to split it. Alan Bartlett, with whom the Hall had a leasing agreement for the car park at a peppercorn rent, has said there is nothing in writing and declines to get involved on the Hall’s behalf. At the moment Greenslade Taylor Hunt are not revealing the buyer’s name and it was agreed the Hall will continue to use the car park until instructed not to.

**Weeding**

Victoria said that she and Alison had had several strenuous sessions of hand weeding and spraying recently and wondered if anyone else would be willing to lend a hand. Trevor said he would treat the areas with some agricultural strength Roundup which should have a long lasting effect.

**A.O.B**

Mr Baker the barber has retired after 47 years. He was given a garden token and wrote a very appreciative letter to the Hall Committee.

Victoria asked if she could contact Pete White regarding a leak in the guttering and Trevor said it would a good idea if he checked the flat roof again.

Alison said there has been a request via the Parish Council for the NHS to use the Hall for voluntary health checks on occasions. There was general agreement this was a good idea and perhaps could be advertised in Village magazine and involve the village agent in some capacity.

Trevor reported that a parishioner had made a rambling complaint at the Parish Council meeting about the lack of parking in the village and asked why villagers can’t use the car park.

Alison suggested it would be a good idea if a member of the Hall Committee joined the Parish Plan Committee. Julia expressed an interest, and Victoria said she would mention it to Scott.

Marian commented on the lack of street lighting immediately outside the Hall and wondered if it would be possible to improve it. Trevor said it was a complicated process to pursue any additional lighting and would have to be taken up by the Parish Council if considered necessary.

The next meeting, to discuss the Cheese, wine and mince pies evening, will be held in the Hall on Thursday 9 November 2017 at 7.00 pm, and there being no further business the meeting was closed