

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE DUDDENHOE
END VILLIAGE HALL COMMITTEE HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 4 AUGUST 2010 AT 8.00

PRESENT

Bob Reich - Chairman
Martin Bach
Jennifer Clifton
Philip Clifton
Jane Guy
Roberta Pearce
Susanne Reich

1. MINUTES

ACTION

The minutes of the meeting held 30 June 2010 were circulated. The minutes, as amended, would be made available on the Web site.

JG
MB

2. MIDSUMMER GAMES

It was felt that the committee had been a little stretched to administer the individual games, and thanks were extended to the assistance of Anna, Denise and Trevor in covering the vacant posts.

MB

It was estimated that 50 villagers and friends had attended the games and there had been a good mix of children, young adults and adults. The attendees had enjoyed an exceptionally warm day and had remained at the event well after the games had ended. There was some doubt that the games would have attracted as many people had the weather not been so good.

Roberta confirmed that a report on the Games was on the Web site and a report on the afternoon would be submitted to the Gazette.

RP

The profit on the day had been £86.00, (excluding the on costs of electricity and water!) which would contribute towards the village hall running costs.

3. CENSUS

Martin advised that the online census of the village to help with planning of future events etc. was available for all committee members to view and provide comments. It was the intention to have the census

available online in September. Paper copies for those not web-enabled would be circulated at the same time. A post box will be available at the village hall to receive written responses to the questionnaire.

4. GRANT APPLICATION

The committee had been successful in obtaining an Essex Community Foundation Grassroots grant for the purchase of replacement tables and chairs for the Village hall receiving the full amount applied for, £2128.00. Roberta was thanked for obtaining the necessary quotation and preparing the application. She reminded everyone that the quote was limited to 14 days and that she would contact the suppliers to ascertain the validity of the price. Once the cheque was banked the purchase could go ahead. Bob and Jane offered to provide credit card details to facilitate the purchase, should that be the preferred method of payment.

RP

BR JG

It was noted that the price did not include off loading the replacement furniture so the delivery would be arranged when sufficient bodies were available to undertake the manual labour involved.

ALL

Once the new furniture has arrived it will be necessary to rationalise the existing furniture. This could be offered for sale.

There was a general discussion over what work should be done to the hall to utilise the grant of £500 available from Elmdon & Wendens Lofts Parish Council. It was agreed that a very minor rejuvenation by repainting of the hall could be funded by this method. It was agreed that a long-term programme of alterations and redecoration should be considered as this would assist in making applications for grants in the future. Martin said that he would seek pro bono expert advice on what could be done at the hall within the existing building. Various suggestions were made regarding the stage and unfriendly lighting in the hall.

MB

5. FUTURE EVENTS

The committee agreed the timing for the following events – to be publicised at every opportunity to the residents of Duddenhoe End:-

- Walk to Chrishall – Sunday 19 September 2010
- Harvest Supper – Saturday 16 October 2010
- Curry n’ Quiz Night – Saturday 13 November 2010
- Christmas Lights – Sunday 5 December 2010 (provisional)
- Half term entertainments

Jane confirmed that she had spoken to Chris Cozens at the Red Cow, who was more than happy to host a Sunday lunch at the end of the walk on 19 September 2010. He had suggested that he would arrange a specific menu to allow his kitchen to prepare for a ‘large table’ of walkers, with the necessary options to meet all tastes.

The committee discussed the information that should go out on flyers. A flyer for the Red Cow walk should be circulated before the end of August. Jane would forward a copy of the Village Hall logo to Martin. The logo had been designed by Hannah Broughton following a competition for children in 2006 for the 75th anniversary of the building of the village hall (the establishment of the trustees and grant of land was in 1930).

The format for the Harvest supper sparked a great deal of discussion. It was agreed to set up a small group to look at the catering arrangements, menu and to enlist volunteer cooks comprising Jennifer, Susanne and Jane.

JC SR
JG

The entertainment and diversions for the Harvest supper were considered, without a firm conclusion, and the committee members were asked to give careful thought for this part of the evening before the next committee meeting. Various suggestions included a table quiz, individual talent competition, folk singers/group and a photography competition.

ALL

As there was no specific event arranged for November it was agreed to run a ‘quiz with curry’. Susanne suggested a local and entrepreneurial curry house that might be persuaded to deliver, in quantity, to Duddenhoe End and provide a buffet style meal for quizzers. Susanne

said that she would make the necessary enquiries. Jane and Susanne would devise the quiz questions for the night. SR JG

With regard to the Christmas lights, despite disparaging comments, this event had been popular in the past and will continue in 2010.

There was some discussion of providing structured entertainment during the school half term holidays – with films or indoor games, chess etc.

Martin reminded everyone that it was important to keep up a full programme of forthcoming events to show the villagers that the Village Hall was a constant source of activity in the area and the website would keep changing to show new things in the programme.

6. VILLAGE HALL BOOKING ARRANGEMENTS

Jane made a suggestion that the booking for the Hall could be administered by all of the committee via an on-line diary (not an online booking system). The viewing of the hall by any prospective hirer could be done on a rota basis. Phil said he would investigate the on line systems available to find one suitable. PC

The committee considered a proposal from a villager for a Friday Fish & Chip supper night with bring your own wine and agreed that this would be a welcome use and suggested the hirers make a small individual donation towards the Village Hall.

Susanne was concerned over the money collection aspect of the bookings and was happy to maintain the diary pro tem as Jane would continue to issue invoices and receipts for hirers. The committee acknowledged that a clear pricing policy would be an advantage. SR JG

7. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting to be held on Thursday 16 September 2010 at 8.00pm in the Village Hall. ALL