

Present: Raine Thompson (RT)
Lyndy Pullan (LP)
Peter Edwards (PE)
David Henrick (DH)
Michael Robinson (MR) Spaldwick Parish Council
Jim White (JW)

Apologies: Grahame Leach (GL)

Declarations of Interest None

Previous Minutes Approved and signed by RT in absence of GL

Research other village halls - documents showing information regarding costs and how they are managed.

ACTION GL Scan the documents and DH distribute - **ONGOING**

ACTION - To contact other local village halls, in communities with a similar population to Spaldwick (650) to gather information about how they are funded and managed:

SB Tillbrook & Catworth - **ACTION** DH to contact SB to determine progress **ONGOING**

LP Little Staughton - LP has contact details and will follow-up **ONGOING**

DH Kimbolton & Alconbury - DH obtained information from Kimbolton Village Hall

The Mandeville Hall in Kimbolton set aside £10000 pa as their maintenance budget. A grant of £80000 was obtained from the Cambridgeshire Community Foundation to make improvements to the Hall.

Mark Heath offered statistics regarding population - **Kimbolton & Alconbury** are three times the population of Spaldwick - Grafham is similar size to Spaldwick would be a better comparison.

ACTION DH to make contact to gather information. **ONGOING**

Newsletter was produced and posted on Village Hall website some statistics from Mark Heath:

There have been 256 views of the newsletter so far. Also, in the last 31 days, there have been 94 visits to the village hall page, up from 62 in the previous 31 day period. I'm sure that you saw all the various comments on Facebook, which I'm sure will be helpful in your meeting. If you do undertake a village survey, I'm very happy to publish the findings on the website. I would urge you to keep an online dialogue with villagers (e.g. with regular updates that I can publish as articles on the blog). The stats show that there's a great deal of interest in the topic, just as there currently is in the service station. Having spoken to a number of people following publication of the newsletter, which mentioned figures, many now are sceptical (particularly with property prices accelerating and expected to increase another 21% over the coming years) that there will ever be enough money, and the probability is getting lower over time as the gap between property prices and interest rates for savings continues to grow. I think many are keen to 'vote' to pursue alternatives seriously (e.g. joint development with the church or school) so that the money is actually used for benefit. After seeing the superb job they have made of Easton Church (I was recently there to take the village photo), I hope that these alternatives can be investigated.

ACTION DH - to reply

There were other comments on Facebook

Further discussion took place about other village hall projects and what we could learn.

ACTION DH to contact Andrew Barr for information about Offord Village Hall **ONGOING**

Ellington Village Hall may also be a useful source of information.

JW informed the meeting that he been in conversation with Andrew Moffatt the Head of HDC Planning - Paul Bland from HDC Planning department has moved on following promotion.

JW expressed concern that time has elapsed since the last survey of Village residents and suggested that the question of the need/requirement for a Village Hall or similar facility should be addressed. The response to a survey would provide direction for the Village Hall Committee.

Much discussion followed - ideas exchanged regarding a survey.

MR stated that the Village Plan is to be reviewed by the Parish Council but not until 2016. **MR** to keep us informed.

DH proposed that a survey is developed as soon as possible. All the Committee agreed and continued a discussion to outline the aims and structure and management of a survey - with the intention of reaching ALL residents both on-line and by visiting every home with a questionnaire - perhaps utilising the monthly newsletter. Data Protection issues were discussed and also the aim of the survey - the aim is to obtain a true and honest opinion from the village.

Ideas for questions:

What facilities do we need that we do not currently have?

What would they be?

How often would you use such a facility?

Questions to include information about the Household - number and age range of residents

ACTIONS:

DH - contact John Blatch regarding print deadline for December newsletter. **25 November 2015**

DH - contact Mark Heath about hosting the survey on www.spaldwick.com/villagehall

LP to locate previous survey questions and draft a survey monkey for Committee comments by **11 NOV 15**

Reports:

Treasurer: **RT** reported that she had made contact with several Banks - Lloyds, TSB & Barclays - the interest rates on offer are less than we currently obtain from CCLA. **CLOSED.**

DH Has obtained an invite to CCLA Charity Investment Seminar on 19 November in Cambridge - not sure if it would be of value - **ACTION** email **RT** for an opinion.

The subject of the Crockery held at Willow House by Mrs Wheeler was raised - as there is no asset register for these items it was decided not to pursue the matter. **CLOSED**

MR asked about chairs and tables - and was advised that this matter had been considered at previous meeting and the furniture scrapped as no longer of use due to rust and potential risk to users.

Correspondence Email from Fiona Armstrong to be circulated to Committee **ACTION DH** reply

Stakeholders

AOB

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.20 pm.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held at The George on 24 November 15 at 8 pm.

SIGNED AS APPROVED

Grahame Leach Chairman

DATE