

**Sopley Parish Hall Committee Mtg
March 17th 2025**

Present

Caroline, Sue, Cheryl, Kit, Norman, Cynthia, Nick, John, Imogen, Rosie.

Apologies

Katie

Caroline welcomed Cheryl to her first meeting as a new member of the committee.

Matters Arising:

John's tenure as SPH committee member is coming to an end as he is stepping down. April will be John's final meeting. Gavin is keen to take over as Treasurer but this is not yet confirmed.

Treasurers Report

. full report circulated by John prior to meeting.

Opening Nat West bank balance on 1st February = £12277.03

Total income = £1350.46

Total expenditure = £1330.86

Surplus = £24.60

Closing bank balance on 28th February = £12296.63

With Income helped along by our own successful Quiz event plus the NFDC Local Elections and numerous private hirings, we did manage to achieve a small surplus during the month.

Site costs were high due to repairs to the Air Conditioning System in Festival Hall.

Events:

. 16th May. **Barn Dance with Top Set.** Rosie to ask if they need a stage. Kit to sell raffle tickets on the night. Caroline will send Katie e mail re poster Caroline & Norman on bar, Rosie & Sue on door

. 17th May. **V.E. Day celebration** 2-6 WI will be asked to make sandwiches. Sue to take back to WI committee. On the day John, Kit, Sue, Katie, Norman helping Cheryl possibly, and Lizzie Lakey

. **Bingo** to be arranged for June/July

. **Summer Fete** will not run this year as Sopley school were not willing to share the event and there are no other safe venues available.

. **Clairvoyant evening.** Nick has emailed 2 people and is waiting for a response.

. 15th May **Parish council AGM** at SPH

. **Car Boot** sale is a possible fundraising idea which is being considered.

Action: Cheryl to explore possibility with Moorlands.

Hall Bookings

Imogen gave details of bookings for the the coming month.

Building Maintenance

. Kitchen tap still needs attention. **Action:** Nick will contact the plumber he had previously lined up to look at the tap and the water heater in the kitchen.

. Intruder alarm annual service (to be carried out by Ashley Security) has been booked for 7th April to arrive between 11-12. **Action:** Rosie to be present.

. Air conditioning/heating discussion. Rosie has counted the engineers and because of the age of the units a replacement part is not available. Committee requested a report on what the fault is. **Action:** Rosie to contact engineer.

. Katie explained that the work has been signed off and the Highways engineer will not be returning. Paving slabs can be put down once the grass has grown and the bollards removed and the ramp can be then used. **Action:** Bollards will be discussed at parish council meeting

Health & Safety

. Annual risk assessment. **Action;** Caroline will take the Health and Safety book home and review the risk assessment

. Inside/Outside lighting . There are a number of lighting problems which need resolving. The light in Festival Hall keeps going off, the large light in Oak Hall needs replacing and the light on the outside telegraph pole is not working.

Action: Katie to ask Taff to quote for repair/replace

. Ramp Lights: **Action** John has been following this up.

. 3 Hour test **Action:** Nick will carry out check.

Any Other Business

. Grant sub group meeting. Rosie, Sue & Cynthia shared the results of the discussion held at the meeting with Katie on 25th Feb. Waiting for details from Taff & The Acre (Group that supports/ advises Village Hall) once this has been received we will meet again.

. Booking manager vacancy **Action:** Sue to meet with Imogen

. AGM will be held on Tuesday 6th May 7.00p.m.

Phil thanked everyone for the card and verse and wine from Cynthia on behalf of the committee.

Road side posters: John has been trying to track down information relating to this but there is no clear information which relates to our situation and he has been directed to different departments to no avail. The committee agreed we will keep advertising in the same way until we are advised otherwise.

Rosie confirmed she has stepped down as a Trustee as a result of the bollards/ramp issues. Also as a result of this action the hall has suffered from the loss of income from one hall user who has decided no longer to use the hall and another user considering her future use of the hall. The hall cannot afford to lose or upset regular users which is clearly what has happened and it will be very difficult to recoup this loss of income.

Rosie felt that being a Trustee has legal responsibilities which have been totally disregarded by councillors. This was evident by the fact that a couple of Parish Councillors went ahead with putting up bollards without any prior discussion with the committee regarding the safety issues resulting from the installation. The installation has also created great upset with hall users which members of the committee have to respond to.

It is evident that the Parish Council has no control over the action of individual councillors as they went ahead prior to any formal agreement being discussed at the Parish Council meeting. This leaves Trustees feeling very undervalued in what is a voluntary position. It also puts Trustees in a vulnerable position as they may become liable for any legal action resulting from any potential accidents and one Rosie felt she was not willing to risk.

Date of Next meeting: April 8th. 7.00p.m.