

# THURLESTONE PARISH HALL

Minutes of Zoom committee meeting held  
30 November 2020, 4.30pm

**PRESENT:** A Daily (Secretary), S Dwyer, D Martin, M Stickland, C & L White (Treasurer) & S Woodford

**1. Apologies:** P Crawford, V Hodder, N Hurrell, J Le Grice, P Macdonald

**2. Minutes** of meeting held 26 October agreed and will be signed at a later date.

### **3. Events for 2021**

Discussed the possibility of starting some events in the latter part of next year depending on the roll out of vaccines and reduction of Covid cases. It might be possible to restart in the summer as most events can be arranged at short notice. Perhaps a musical concert could be pencilled in for the end of the year, possibly Tim Kliphaus. Other suggestions were Family Fun, Autumn or Christmas Fair, Open Gardens and Cheese and Wine. Unsure about the situation regarding the Horticultural Show at present.

### **4. Re-opening of the Hall**

No one is able to start back once Lockdown 2 finishes, and the new year will be dependent on the situation after the Christmas period is over and whether we are still in tier 2. There is always the possibility of a further lockdown before Easter.

### **5. Dates for Meetings 2021**

Everyone was happy to recommence meetings from January, starting on the 18<sup>th</sup>. Our usual AGM meeting will be held in March. A schedule of meeting dates is to be sent out with the minutes from this meeting. All meetings via Zoom until further notice.

### **6. Treasurer's Report.**

Quarter 4:

The only income has been the Village Voice share of the Zoom licence (2 months worth).

South West Water collected £96.24.

TV Licencing collected £157.50.

EDF are currently collecting £174 per month and has been included the December payment in the accounts.

Plusnet are currently collecting £26.99 per month and again, are included in the December payment in the accounts.

Paul Martin has been paid £9.99 for a 3-core flexible cable, £13.59 for a 13A Fused Mains Plug and £31.50 for a time switch.

The Lockstate annual subscription has been paid, which was £16.17 and comes under Uncategorised Expenses.

The Zoom licence of £14.39 per month is included in Uncategorised Expenses and the December payment is included in the accounts. The licence is shared with Village Voice Magazine.

An email from South Hams DC was received on November 16th offering grants of £1000, £2000 or £3000 depending on the rateable value of the premises. These grants were on a first come, first served basis. This was applied for on November 16th but nothing has been heard since, it was supposed to start paying out on November 25<sup>th</sup> so has been chased up today.

## 7. Maintenance Committee Report.

EDF have replaced the electricity meter with a vector sum meter which will take account of electricity generated by the PV panels. Compensation was mentioned so we await the outcome regarding that.

Lighting: the two lights from Italy are still outstanding, they are being chased. Chris and Paul will be given a training session on how to operate the new lighting system on Saturday.

PAT testing also outstanding as Tony is uncontactable at present, he was always used in the past as he was involved with the previous stage lighting, but now the system has been changed we will try and find someone else to complete the testing.

Ventilation: Vida has again raised her serious concerns regarding the current advice about the opening of windows and doors to provide ventilation during the winter months and asked why we haven't asked the advice of a HVAC engineer regarding other means? The current system brings in fresh air in the summer but during the winter months uses a mixture of fresh air and recirculated air from inside the building, which is why the only option available to us at present is to open windows and doors. When we started discussions on this issue at our first meeting after the commencement of the first Lockdown, Chris contacted a HVAC engineer (Danny Baker) and asked him "should or shouldn't we be using the current system" he wouldn't commit himself, his only suggestion was to put in HEPA filters at a cost of £2500. Not sure this is a viable option as it will still move air and possible virus particles around before being extracted, because the extraction vent is half way down the end wall of the hall it will therefore drag air the full length of the hall. The filters therefore can help but are not a cure. Chris asked if he should pursue this, but it was decided to delay the decision at present. To replace the existing ventilation would cost a fortune and modifying the system so that it uses only outside air in the winter would require a huge boiler, and cost a fortune to run. Question was asked "do we need to worry about this now vaccines are available". COVID is only one virus, we are now more aware of how infection is passed around and due consideration should be taken into account for any future incurable diseases or flu type viruses.

Heating: in conjunction with the exploration of mechanical ventilation means, it was also suggested that instead of spending a large amount of money on just the recirculation air problem it was worth looking into replacing the heating system with one that incorporated the solving of the ventilation problem along with future proofing the hall on environmental grounds and would therefore be more cost effective. Once more was learnt about the spread of COVID, Chris started to look at alternatives and by our September meeting had found out about Infra-Red heating (comprehensive details of which have been sent to all members). The current boiler is 15 years old and will need to be replaced at some point, but are we ahead of our time in trying to do this now or do we wait for it to break down? Chris has satisfied himself Infra-red works on principle but doesn't yet know the running costs as the people he needs to see to gather this information are in a tier 3 area and therefore cannot be visited. Currently the boiler runs continuously for 15 minutes then goes into a cycle of 3 minutes on 11 minutes off and costs roughly £2 per hour. The Infra-Red 19 Kw heaters will cost £3.90 if run continuously for an hour but what is not known is if they would actually run for the whole time in that hour. Oil prices are low at present but are variable. From an ecological point of view, we will be encouraged to replace the fossil fuelled boiler with some sort of renewable energy, whether there will be any grants available in the future, we do not know. No further action will be taken at this time as not all information is available to us and we do not need to rush into it until

we can make an informed decision. The hall will remain unheated for the time being, though if temperature drops to certain level it will switch on automatically. If any users of the hall wish to return in the new year, they will be informed about the heating and allowed to make their own choice in the matter. The committee members present thanked Chris for all his hard work in trying to solve a difficult issue.

Battery Storage: Chris gave us some information regarding the current usage of the hall which is 4/5 kw in idle mode and with the new meter will be covered by the solar panels during the day. 2/3 kw used during the evening but once lights, appliances and the car park come back used this will increase. For an outlay of £5000 a storage unit would cover all background running costs and would pay back the outlay in time.

“Would electric heating be offset by installing battery storage?” A much larger unit would be required for this purpose and cost far more, for the sake of heating the hall for 5 hours two nights a week for the Bridge Club it would not be cost effective.

Alison will send a video with information on battery storage to some of the committee but we are in no rush at the moment to pay out and can take our time to gather more details.

As normality will not return a while this gives time to gather facts on these three objectives and enable us to them make more informed decisions.

## 8. A.O.B

- The new thermometers seem to register quite low temperatures, concern is someone with a high temperature would be missed. Sue explained that as it does not actually touch the skin it will record a lower reading, so anything over 35c would be considered high. (Alison)
- What is happening about the hall taking part in the Thurlestone Illuminations - Paul is putting up external lights and Diane is decorating the inside of the hall with the Christmas tree and handmade candles in the lobby. The new lights could be put on a timer to light up the inside. Luke has 300m of lights in his warehouse and will be asked how much he will charge for the hire of these. The tree needs to be brought down from the attic. Illuminations run from 12<sup>th</sup> until 31<sup>st</sup> December and maps can be bought from the Post Office for £3 and proceeds go to the school. (Lisa)
- If Hattie returns after Christmas should we charge her for the hire of the hall and car park? It was agreed previously that people should not get it free of charge. She did offer £30 but some thought this was too high, so £20 was agreed upon. (Diane)
- If the sewing group was to return with just 4 people at a time wearing masks could they use the Yeo Room instead of the main hall as it will be too cold. Agreed to, if and when guidelines permit. (Diane)

**Dates of next meeting –**

**18 January 2021 via Zoom 4.30pm**

The meeting closed at 5.40pm

Signed.....  
Chairman

Date.....