

ENFORD RECREATION GROUND. AND VILLAGE HALL TRUST

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING ON TUESDAY 20 MAY 2025 AT 7.30 pm

Present:

Judy D'Arcy Irvine, Hamish Scott-Dalglish, Hannah Tucker, Jackie Elkins, Jane Young, David Spencer

Apologies: Chris Rose, Matt and Becky Broughan

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of the Committee Meeting of 18 February 2024 were proposed by David Spencer and seconded by Jacqui Elkins.

2. MATTERS ARISING Included in the following reports.

3. TREASURER'S REPORT

i) Accounts for the period up to 19 May 2025 were presented. The overall position showed a reduced deficit from £6,035 to a current deficit of £1,500 after receipt of a £5,000 grant from Westmill Solar Energy towards cost of replacement LED lights, installation of Smart Thermostats and ancillary work to the heat pump. A replacement circulation pump has been recommended and will cost around £1,000.

ii) Broadband is costing around £41.99 per month. Apart from hirers now having full access to the internet it means that films and live productions can now be streamed.

iii) It was hoped that the deficit will have reduced by year end on 30 June 2025. The insurance renewal has been paid £1,192. The annual servicing of the shutters is due on 23 May, together with the repair of the exit door shutter, and the cost will be around £1,200 in total.

4. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

i) Rental income from the Great Bustard Group has been increased to £400 per month to reflect use of the second changing room. HSD suggested that some sort of formal contract should be in place so that at the first anniversary of the informal arrangement (November 2025) an increase could be automatically charged based on cost of supply index or similar. It was hoped that the GBG will become permanent tenants. They are very active and it raises the issue of whether and when the changing rooms could be formally altered. JDI had found that football teams are reluctant to use the field when confronted with the issue of marking pitches and cleaning the changing rooms after use.

ii) The GBG had asked if the PIR lights in the changing rooms could be amended to have On/Off switches rather than being on motion sensors. One quotation had been received for £350 plus vat to do the work. Post Meeting: Nathan Abbott has quoted £200-£300 plus vat for the work.

iii) The Polyflor vinyl flooring and capping strips are peeling away from the walls in many places and looking very unsightly. One contractor Crusader Carpets in Salisbury had quoted £1,350 plus vat, and a second contractor Selfloor in Melksham had quoted £1,713 plus vat to re-fix the flooring and replace the capping strip throughout the relevant areas: all the loos, corridors, kitchen, changing rooms, cleaning cupboard. Post Meeting: A third contractor Magic Carpets in Salisbury has quoted £685 including vat to carry out the work.

iv) There has been a small saving in electricity with the new lights and Smart thermostats but not as much as expected. By chance, at the beginning of March, it was found that the meter is faulty with the date eight days out and the time 9 hours out. There could be overcharging with weekends being charged at day rates and evenings also being charged at the day rate.

Although the Hall and Octopus are tied in to a 24 month contract Octopus has said a new Smart meter has to be installed but they can no longer provide the three time registers we currently have: Day Rate, Evenings/Weekend Rate and Night Rate. Evenings, weekends and nights are charged at a lower rate than the day rate. As most bookings take place weekends and evenings, the lower rate is important. As Octopus appear to be deviating from the contract and agreed tariffs JDI has asked Citizens Advice for assistance.

v) New cutlery to replace missing items and some more mugs have been purchased. The mugs are proving to be very popular.

vi) The hand rail by the Great Bustard entrance door has been repaired. Dan Withers has been asked to make safe and shore up the subsidence under the hand rail and also quote to replace four rotten bollards.

vii) The Hall had been approached to provide a blood bank venue, with several sessions per annum being booked. Post meeting: having sent details of the Hall to the NHS apparently the Hall is too small for their needs.

4. GROUNDS / MAINTENANCE REPORTS

i) DS had no additional matters to report other than those detailed.

ii) HSD was concerned about the damage to the field caused by rabbits which is now significant. He would look into asking Wiltshire Council for advice but was not optimistic.

iii) HSD reported that his tractor had finally failed after 30 years of use. Repairs had been carried out at an estimated cost of £1,500 but not yet confirmed. JDI wondered whether an application for a grant from the Area Board might be possible (two quotations required). HSD said he was looking into possible options but could not do so until the final bill was received. JDI mentioned she thought the Village Hall should bear the brunt if not all of the cost as the tractor was only used to maintain the grounds.

5. JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB

The Junior Football Club, which continues to be sponsored by the Village Hall, is going from strength to strength. Steve Todd has given up running the Club. Becky and Matt Broughan have now taken it over. JDI will send a card and gift to Steve as a thank you for all his efforts over the years.

6. FILM CLUB

The Film Club is going well and produces additional income for the Hall. The new screen is a great success. Usually there are eight film nights a year. HSD explained that the cost of a new projector and sound system would be around £9,000. This could be funded either by the Hall itself (being repaid by the Film Club over time) or with grants including the Community Fund which expressed an interest but had asked for more information. They had suggested approaching Chalk Barn in Rushall for help and advice, but this had not been forthcoming. HSD had submitted an application to the Community Fund for £2,000 to be spread over two years. Further quotations were being obtained by Clive Bullen and the situation is currently described as 'work in progress'.

7. SHORT MAT BOWLS CLUB AND GARDENING CLUB

DS reported he had been successful and had been given a grant by the Area Board for a new mat which had cost £1,300. No report had been received from the Gardening Club.

8. PUBLIC LIABILITY

Jane Young raised the issue of public liability cover for stall holders when selling or providing information at the Enford Fete. Apparently they were increasingly being asked to provide proof of cover. The

Community Fund policy would not cover stallholders, only their own activities. This was also relevant in the case of dog shows at the Fete where dog owners must have their own PLI cover.

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HSD said he thought in most cases a personal household public liability policy in the stallholder's name would extend to running a stall at a Fete unless it was shown it was being run as a business. In Jane's case she is doing it on behalf of the Newsletter and HSD felt it would not prejudice her own household liability cover as she was personally running the stall. The Newsletter was just the beneficiary of her efforts in running the stall. Similarly the Gardening Club was also being affected. JDI said she would ask Allied Westminster, the Hall's insurance company, if the Gardening Club and Newsletter could be covered by the Hall's public liability cover. Post meeting: Allied Westminster confirmed that the Gardening Club and Newsletter could be covered, together with other small clubs which use the Hall.

11. FUTURE EVENTS

- Bonfire & Fireworks 25 October 2025
- Remembrance Sunday Lunch November 2025 – tbc
- Annual Fete 2026 - tbc

12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None

13. PROPOSED DATES FOR 2025/2026 COMMITTEE MEETINGS

2025: 29 July / AGM 30 September / 13 November

2026: 17 February / 19 May / 21 July / AGM 29 September / 17 November

