



MERRIOTT VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE
Trustees' Minutes of the meeting held on

Wednesday 23 October, 7pm, The Blake Room

Presentation to John Bowman

Well done to John for being awarded the CCS Somerset Trustee of the Year. It is thoroughly well deserved and the rest of the committee are thrilled.

1. Apologies/Those Present:

Present at the meeting:

Trustees: Eric Vose (EV), John Bowman (JB), Rosemary Evans (RE), Roger Gilson (RG), Andrew Hayman, Natasha Rebbeck (NR), Nigel Bell (NB), and Cody Quinn (CQ).

Apologies: Lorraine Dry (LD), Frank Smith (FS) and Michelle & Martin Rowsell (MR)

2. Agree previous minutes/matters arising

Carry forward, the item about the noticeboard. EV to do.

3. Matters arising not covered elsewhere

Email addresses are up and running, everybody to use them please going forward.

Action – NR to email all

Cody has offered to take over the events email, to help Lola.

Action - EV to speak to her.

4. Treasurers report/cashflow

Budget:

- The budget was approved as read except for the following adjustments
 - Payroll – a total hourly uplift of £0.75 per hour was agreed for all staff, effective 1 February
 - The amount for the Hall ladies' toilet upgrade was increased from £300 to £1,000
 - The amount for MR bathroom uplift was increased from £1k to £2k.

The result of these changes will be a very small surplus budget of approximately £2k total across Hall and MR. This is a more precarious situation than we have had in recent years, but bearing in mind we still have cash reserves of approximately £20k it was felt to be the right course to take.

Action RE - update budget

- Concern was expressed that hall hire income is forecast to be significantly lower than in previous years due to the loss of regular hirers. An increase to the hire rates was discussed. MVH is competitive locally and a rate increase could actually cause loss of income rather than a gain, so it was decided to leave rates as they are.
- There is a budget of £250 for local advertising. We aim to generate more regular users as well as occasional bookings. Potential advertising e.g. Crewkerne Town Council, Hinton Hound

Action – EV to contact local press

- Current year: EV requested a sum of £250 to be allocated to the provision of a blind for the disabled toilet window and this was approved.

5. CIO progress/update

- **The motion tabled by JB was passed unanimously.**

**Action JB to send to
Robert Horn**

The following resolution was made by the Trustees:

*Merriott Village Hall registered charity number 280536 and
Merriott Village Hall CIO registered charity number 1209414
“At a meeting of the charity trustees (management committee)
held on 23rd October 2024 the following resolution was passed
in accordance with section 280A of the Charities Act 2022:
That the governing document of the charity, being a scheme
dated be amended in the following manner:*

- 1. By the addition to clause 25 the managing trustees may merge with or transfer those of the charity's property forming unrestricted assets to another charity with the same or similar objects, which may be constituted as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)*
- 2. By the addition of the following new clause 13 to the provisions for appointment of a committee as managing trustees given in clause 4 of the 8th December 1995“the above provisions for the appointment of the committee may be replaced by new provisions for appointment of managing trustees set out in the governing document for a CIO at the date when a Pre-Merger Vesting Declaration with the CIO comes into effect, when the above provisions for appointment of the committee will no longer be effective.”*

Signed by the Chairman on 23 October, 2024, during the committee meeting.

- **Action RE - draw up new hire agreements for occasional hire, issue and obtain signatures**
- **Action RE - issue new hire agreements to Michelle and update website**
- **Action RE - chase CAF bank to get all signatories access to online banking**

- RE expressed concern that there is still work to do before the transfer date of 31 December.
- **Action all - review document '2024 02 20 Subcommittee meeting minutes', mark up their actions and press on with progress.**
- **Action JB and RE - obtain quotes from solicitors / conveyancers for transfer of land**

6. Centennial events update

1. Music night – didn't happen
2. Exhibition – well received
3. Quiz Night raised £845.03 plus £157 for raffle - £1002 with 68 people.
4. Halloween event – Cody organising – in double figures – been sharing on social media a lot. Posters up around the local area, looks positive.
5. Music night – 14 December £10 for adults, free for children.
Garage, hairdressers, Hinton shop, will sell tickets as well as the band.
6 blocks of tickets.
Also ticket tailor link. NR to provide poster by the end of the week.
6. November – Craft Exhibition.

7. Projects 2024 & 2025

2024 completed works:

Curtains on the stage

Electrical Upgrade

Floor Treatment main hall

Toilet floors upgrade

Water pressure supply upgrade

Boiler replacement in Melbury Row

Porch in Melbury Row

Next year: Possible hob replacement, shower screen, in Melbury Row.

8. Solar Energy Update

Concern was expressed about the battery losing charge overnight for no apparent reason, which is a cost to MVH.

Action - EV to investigate and pursue SolarWatt for explanation.

9. Business Plan 2025/26

Action – EV to draft

10. User feedback since last meeting

None

11. New and AOB

None

12. Date of next meeting

29 January 2025, 7pm.

The meeting closed at 2110.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and a trailing line.

Eric Vose
Chairman