

ORAC Committee Meeting Minutes 12.12.17 @ 19:45

Present:

Dave Cox, Sandra Cox, Di Noller, Alison Davenport Jones, Anne Stainsby, Nigel Woodhouse,

Jill Crouch arrived 20:00

Apologies: Julia Pointer, Debbie Phillips (Oracle editors), Neil Flack

Absent: Neil Sizer, Gordon Erhorn,

DC opened the meeting at 19:53

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and agreed.

- **Treasurer's report**

DN presented the accounts (copy on file) and asked committee members to inform hirers they must turn heating down, lights off. ADJ will send a note to Barry Woods that he can forward to all hirers. ADJ will make a large sign for the inside front door reminding hall users to save energy and costs

There was a discussion about the telephone/internet bill. DN negotiates the best deals available but is always open to suggestions.

Relationship with the preschool needs to be built upon. ADJ offered to meet with Linda at any time to give support and discuss any issues. DN to pass the message on.

Some ticket money from Christmas dinner is still outstanding - DN needs ALL monies paid in asap.

- **Revised hall hire rates and conditions**

Carried forward to January meeting.

- **Hall extension update**

DC spoke to the council today, 12.12.17. The planning application was initially declined on the basis 2 drawings are missing but DC has now provided these and will call to check on progress and push for a quick decision.

AS has heard from Ipswich FC who will donate 2 tickets if there are any season ticket holders in the village. NW to contact those he knows in the village. The tickets can be raffled or auctioned to raise funds. John Doe of Diss replied to AS – they will supply floor covering for the new extension when it is built.

- **Arrangements for new flooring**

Hall and kitchen will be closed 2/1/18 for at least one week while the new floor is fitted. It may be available for Church on Sunday but impossible to say at this time.

The green and black sofas either need felt covering on the feet or should be disposed of.

DC has asked the Thorndon Carpet Bowls club to be extra careful with their equipment when the new floor is installed. All hall users will be informed of their responsibility to care for the new floor.

- **Playground**

A working party would be a big help: we will organise this in the new year. NS obtained a quote of £64 m3, meaning the total cost is approx £3,500 for new bark. A decision as to when the work can commence will be made in January and depends on weather conditions.

- **Monthly village fayre**

The possibility of charging an hourly hall hire fee was discussed and agreed. JC offered to take over running the fayre if Barry Woods would like a break, either temporarily or permanently. She will speak to BW in due course.

- **Resolution of pre-school signage request**

DC will order a sign for the pre-school that can be hung beneath the existing "Village Hall" sign.

- **Website and page (Neil Flack)**

Postponed again due to NF being absent

- **Future events**

Race night in February – we need details from Neil Sizer. ADJ will organise another quiz for April. DC will post on the FB group, Residents of Occold, asking what events or activities people in the community would like. Each committee member is requested to come up with a costed plan for a fund-raising event at the next meeting. We will discuss the summer fete, to be organised in partnership with the primary school, at the next meeting.

AOB

AS reported complaints from some people regarding the price of the Christmas dinner, bottles of wine and the lack of concession for pensioners. Concessions were discussed at the planning meeting, and discreet enquiries were made to find out if there was anybody in need of a free meal. It was unanimously decided that no concessions could be made this year as costs have risen. Generally, the feedback was positive.

Next meeting set for Thursday 11 January 2018 at 19:45

DC closed the meeting at 21:41

