

Minutes of ORAC meeting Thursday 5th April 2108 @1830

Present: Dave Cox, Alison Davenport Jones, Sandra Cox, Jill Crouch, Allison Goldsmith, Nigel Woodhouse, Robert Richardson, Gordon Erhorn, Neil Sizer

Anne Stainsby arrived 19.15

Neil Flack arrived 19:16, left 19:41

Apologies: Di Noller

DC opened the meeting at 18:34 and introduced AG, thanking her for joining the committee

Agreement of last minutes

These were agreed. RR asked to be included in the email circulation of the minutes

Treasurer's Report

In DN's absence, DC went through the accounts and indicated there might be a discrepancy in the final figures, but this was not verified.

ADJ read out the statement that DN had emailed to all committee members prior to the meeting – no issues arose from this.

A copy of the monthly account is on file.

Race Night

Due to lack of ticket sales, the decision was made to cancel this event

Hall Hire Rates

ADJ distributed hard copies of Barry's proposal, DC distributed his own proposal. Extensive discussion ensued. RR was against hiring to outsiders as the noise abatement order is still in place, and he believes outsiders would not respect the premises or the noise order. Various points of view were expressed but no agreement was reached regarding the new hire rates. In light of the situation involving Jubilee Baptist Church, ADJ distributed copies of the email sent by Rob Powell, Church Elder, and copies of the Terms and Conditions of Hall Hire. (Copy of email on file). Committee members tried to discuss each of Mr Powell's points but this proved difficult due to recurring interruption by the attending Trustee.

RR stated that the deficit and financial problems are due to the Preschool not paying their bills, and the Primary school refusing (some years ago) to contribute financially to the building of the hall. He proposed charging the Primary school £6000 a year for the use of the facilities, which would then (he said) pay for the Preschool. He said the current committee are not operating in the best interests of the village and community and proposed a village survey at a cost of £2000 run through the Parish Council to ascertain what people actually want. ADJ objected to the expenditure of £2000 on the basis that the money should be spent on overdue renovations to the playground. AS and NW both

said a survey would be a waste of money and effort as only a small percentage of village residents use the hall or have any interest in it. RR said people move to Occold to die. This comment was not well received by committee members.

It was eventually agreed that a charge of £2 a week is to be levied against any outside user storing equipment at the hall.

RR accused ORAC of disregarding the needs of regular hirers by disposing of some furniture and restricting the JBC's storage. This was refuted by DC who explained the reasoning behind removing the soft seating and the temporary suspension of storage facilities.

At this point, there was an exchange of views between the Chairman and the Trustee. No further agenda items were covered and no conclusions were reached.

DC closed the meeting 1950

Hall Storage Complaint – addressed within the subject of hall hire rates to some extent but inconclusively.

Agenda items not addressed at this meeting:

August Fun Day

Car park repairs

AGM

AOB