

Minutes of the meeting of the Watton-at-Stone Community Hall Board of Trustees held in the Community Hall on Wednesday 14th February 2001 at 7.30 p.m.

Present: Mr. N. Poulton (Chairman) Mr. I. Knight
Mr. J. Meischke

1 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Mr. Stock.

2 Minutes of meeting held on 1st November 2000

Mr. Meischke proposed that the minutes be accepted and signed by the Chairman as a true record. Mr. Knight seconded the motion and Mr. Poulton was in favour.

3 Matter arising

a) Charity Database and return

Mr. Poulton reported that the completed database and annual return forms had been sent to Charity Commission.

4 Guttering

The leaking guttering above the car park entrance to the Community Hall was discussed. It was agreed that all the guttering needs repairing to stop the leaks, especially above the entrance to the changing rooms, and that any broken roof tiles should be repaired to prevent water leaking down onto the brick and woodwork.

Mr. Poulton said that he had been unable to obtain spare replacement roof tile for the Community Hall.

Recommendation:

The Parish Council to instruct David Bunyan to repair all the roof guttering and replace any broken roof tiles.

5 Play equipment

Mr. Meischke reported that he had repaired the broken cradle-swing seat over the weekend of the 10th/11th February.

6 MPPA

Mr. Knight said that the Tennis Club have requested that the coloured surface be applied to the MPPA as soon as possible. Mr. Meischke said that the coloured surface has to be applied during a good period of dry weather to allow the paint to adhere properly. Doe Sport had anticipated that this work would be carried-out during March/April.

Mr. Meischke to contact Doe Sport to find out how soon the work can be carried-out. **Action: J. Meischke**

The Clerk suggested that a boot scraper could also be installed at the Community Hall. It was agreed that because the football club have never produced the promised footbath that this would be a good idea.

Mr. Meischke and the Clerk to obtain prices of boot-scrapers **J. Meischke/J. Allsop**

Mr. Knight said that the Tennis Club have agreed to form a working party to re-lay the paving slabs from the MPPA to the gap in the hedge because they are not level. This work will be carried-out as soon as possible.

7 Internal Decorations

Mr. Adams to be instructed to carry-out the internal redecoration works (as per his quotation dated 13th September 2000 for a total of £863) at the end of February 2001. **Action: J. Allsop**

Mr. Poulton said that some wood stain is required to cover-up graffiti on the external woodwork at the Community Hall. Mr. Adams to be asked if he has any of the wood stain left from the external decoration work he carried-out last autumn. **Action: J. Allsop**

8 Contract cleaner for floors

It was agreed that the floors in the Community Hall need cleaning after the internal decorations have been completed. Mr. Poulton said that the floors in the pavilion and corridor area mark easily and Christine Bewley had asked if a sealant could be applied.

Recommendation:

The Parish Council instructs the floor-cleaning contractors to clean the floors, when the internal decorating work has been completed, and that a floor sealant is applied in the pavilion and corridor area, provided that it meets all the health and safety regulations.

9 Vandalism

Mr. Poulton said that there had been further acts of vandalism at the Community Hall. The hand dryer in the outside gents toilet had been pulled away from the wall. Mr. Poulton said that he had tried to fix the hand-dryer back on the wall, but two days later it was found hanging by the electrical cable. Don Chandler kept the toilet locked until Mr. Bunyan had carried-out the repair work required.

10 Floodlighting machine

A new floodlighting coin-meter has been purchased because the existing one was causing problems. Mr. Meischke reported that he had now repaired the faulty machine and the new meter, which is being stored in the cupboard in the Parish Council room, will be kept as a spare. The dimensions of the new meter are slightly different to the existing one, but Mr. Meischke confirmed that it did fit the hole in the Community Hall wall.

11 Any other business

• **Shed on sportsfield**

Mr. Poulton reported that the Cricket Club's application for the building of a storage shed on the sportsfield had been received from EHDC. A former Chairman of the Parish Council (Mrs. Barbara Knight) had asked to look at the plans and brought to our attention that there is a Diocesan Glebe covenant on the land not to erect any building within one hundred and fifty feet of the south-western boundary.

Mr. Poulton wrote to Cled Fursland (Cricket Club) outlining the problem and arranged a meeting to discuss the way forward.

Mr. Poulton has arranged a site meeting with David Lacon of Rumball Sedgwick (the St. Albans Diocesan Board solicitors) on Friday 16th February to see if the covenant can be lifted.

Mr. Fursland will also attend this meeting, where Mr. Poulton will discuss possible alternative locations for the storage shed if the covenant cannot be lifted.

The Trustees discussed the relocation of the storage shed and a possible site would be on the Church Walk side of the sportsfield between the play area and the gap in the hedge.

• **RoSPA – Annual playground inspection**

There was a brief discussion on the children's play area regarding the RoSPA report. Mr. Poulton and Mr. Meischke to meet on site on Thursday 15th February and prepare a report for the next Parish Council meeting.

• **Date of meetings for the civic year 2001/02**

The following meeting dates were agreed for the Watton-at-Stone Community Hall Trustees.

- Tuesday 5th June 2001 at 7.30 p.m.
- Tuesday 4th September 2001 at 7.30 p.m.
- Tuesday 11th December 2001 at 7.30 p.m.
- Tuesday 4th March 2002 at 7.30 p.m.

The meeting closed at 8.20 p.m.