



HALE PARISH COUNCIL

OF THE HALTON BOROUGH IN
THE COUNTY OF CHESHIRE



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF HALE PARISH COUNCIL

ACTING AS SOLE TRUSTEE OF HALE VILLAGE HALL

HELD ON TUESDAY 9TH JULY 2024 AT 8.00pm IN HALE VILLAGE HALL

Present: Cllr Lewis, Cllr Anderson, Cllr Wright, Cllr Healey, Cllr Roberts,

Cllr Williams, Cllr Cleary, Cllr Trevaskis, Cllr Roberts

In attendance: Mr. Brian Hargreaves (Proper Officer) & 7 Members of the Public

Until the Chair of Hale Parish Council arrives the Deputy Chair. Cllr Williams agreed to chair the meeting

1. **Apologies** – An apology for his late arrival was received from Cllr Roberts by the Clerk. No apology was received from Cllr Brown.
2. **Declarations of Interest** – No declarations of interest were received
3. **Public Participation** – No members of the public wished to address the meeting
4. **Minutes** – The draft minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Hale Parish Council as Trustee of Hale Village Hall on 13th May 2024 were accepted as a true and accurate record.

The motion was proposed by Cllr Anderson and Seconded by Cllr Lewis

The Motion was approved unanimously

5. Village Hall Repairs & Maintenance Plan

- i. To allocate a maximum budget of £1500 to complete the repair works recently undertaken by a team of volunteers from the Village. The work will be paid work and will make the building secure going forwards.

An amendment to the proposal was initially requested by Cllr Trevaskis but after further discussion it was felt that the inclusion of an Agenda Item for the next Village Hall Management meeting would be more appropriate and will give the matter, which relates to the issue of alleged Gas theft by Hale Parish Council/ Village Hall Management Committee more time for consideration.

The original motion was proposed by Cllr Wright and seconded by Cllr McNamara

In a vote Cllrs Cleary and Healey were against the motion with all other members voting in favour

The Motion was approved

- ii. **Sound Proofing** – No further updates relating to this project were available for discussion
- iii. **Seating** – The Clerk informed the meeting that chairs which have kindly been donated by West Lancashire College via Alderman Paul Turton will be collected by Barry Crockett (Caretaker) this week at the convenience of the University.

It was agreed that the chairs would address the current issue which is a shortage of seats but will not be a long term solution which will need further work to explore the availability of funding and grant availability.

Proposed by Cllr Wright and seconded by Cllr Roberts

The Motion was approved unanimously

6. **ACRE Grant application** – The Clerk informed the meeting that unfortunately funding from ACRE had ended and that any application for assistance towards repairing or upgrading the aesthetics of Hale Village Hall would need to be through a different body.

A member of the Village Hall Management Committee advised against spending without proper consideration given the current financial position of the Village Hall.

Cllr Trevaskis was at pains to express his preference for a donation based approach to any upgrades and that he would prefer a “blue sky” approach to driving improved revenue for developments.

He explained that he was frustrated by his lack of opportunity to explain his train of thought and to explain his preferred approach to developing the Village Hall. He feels that available grants should be explored and then to work in reverse using available budgets.

Proposed by Cllr Wright and seconded Cllr Roberts

The Motion was approved unanimously

**A list of bodies who the Village Hall Management Committee may want to approach regarding grants & funding was received by the Clerk from Cheshire Action and supplied to members for review.*

7. **Social Media/Website update** – The Clerk explained that the project has made good progress and that he has instructed the developer to continue with the chosen format. A current version is available at <https://halevillagehall-com.stackstaging.com/>

The Clerk has forwarded the new Tariff to the developer and work on supplying any missing information and continue to work towards completion.

A photo bank is now available to the developer to include current images and posts.

**The Chairman, Cllr Roberts arrived and took over chairing the meeting*

8. **Key Register & Lock Change** – It was agreed that the locks will be changed on the two front doors of the Village Hall over the weekend of the 20th and 21st July. The Clerk will allocate new Keys to the doors and to the Key safe situated in the foyer of the Village Hall. He will have the relevant agreement terms & conditions signed by keyholders.
9. **Appraisals** – The documentation for appraisals was considered and approved by the members. It was agreed that Appraisals will take place in July 2024.

Proposed by Cllr Lewis and seconded by Cllr Anderson

The Motion was approved unanimously

The Clerk will circulate the Job descriptions to the Staffing Committee for all current staff

The Chair closed the meeting at 9.30pm