

Sudbrook and West Willoughby Village Hall (SWVH) Committee Meeting 7th Oct 2021

Note: This meeting took place immediately following the Annual General Meeting which was recorded separately.

1. Welcome/Co-opt new trustee and member

The Chairman welcomed Tamara Coton as a new trustee. In addition, Neil Gray had had to resign as a trustee following his move out of the Area of Benefit but was welcomed back to the Committee as a newly co-opted member to continue in his role as Treasurer. All other trustees' roles would remain as before.

2. Attendance

Present: John Somerville (JS), Karen Barrett (KB), Louise Burn (LB), John Cairns (JC), Tamara Coton (TC), Neil Gray (NG), Peter Hall (PH), Andy Newton (AN), Rae Seng (RS), Tom Williams (TW).

3. Approval/ Amendments to the minutes of the last meeting

It was agreed that the minutes provided a good overall record of the meeting held on 22nd July 2021. **JC** was to forward the minutes for inclusion on the APC website.

4. Record Area of Benefit Confirmation

The Charity Commission had confirmed the requested amendment to the charity's objects. Specifically, the Area of Benefit had formally changed from 'the Parish of Ancaster' to 'Sudbrook and West Willoughby'.

5. Christmas Tree and Memorial Bench Review.

The rooted Christmas tree bought at the time of the last Carol Singing event required planting, and the memorial bench sourced by TW some time ago required placing on the VH site. The tree would be planted in a bulk bag to restrict its growth and would be transferred to Ancaster Cemetery once it started to outgrow the VH site. In addition, appropriate locations for the tree and bench were agreed. **TW** agreed to coordinate the planting/installation of the tree/bench.

6. Marquee storage.

The Marquee required an appropriate longer-term storage location. **TW** agreed to store the marquee in his double-decker bus until further notice.

7. Fence Status Report.

Replacing the current wire fencing and concrete posts with wooden fencing had been considered some time ago. However, the company that had intended to provide the fencing had unfortunately ceased trading due to the pandemic. An alternative plan to replace the wire fencing with a native British hedge such as Beech was discussed. **TW** agreed to investigate potential costings and **AN** would explore the likelihood of funding such a hedge through available grants.

8. Offer of tables and chairs. Mrs Rosemary Kaberry-Brown had identified a potential source of tables and chairs for use in the marquee. However, it was considered that an appropriate storage area was likely to be a significant problem and that it would be easier for people to bring their own picnic tables and chairs to events. Hence, the offer would be respectfully declined.

9. Canvassing Sheets.

A canvassing sheet had been produced to elicit the residents' opinions concerning the future of the SWWVH site. It was agreed that **RS** would print a canvassing sheet for each household and that **RS**, **LB** and **TC** would deliver them. In addition, **RS** would arrange for a collection box to be situated in the Sudbrook telephone box and collect the completed sheets after an agreed period. The results of the canvassing would then be discussed at the next meeting.

10. Any Other Business

It was agreed that a Carol Singing Event would be held in December 2021. **Committee members** would explore potential dates that would not clash with other significant local Christmas activities.

RS requested the use of the VH site and marquee on 14th May 2022 to celebrate significant birthdays for herself and her husband.

11. Arrangements for Next Meeting

The next meeting of the SWWVH Committee would be held at 7pm on 4th November 2021 at Carlton Scroop Village Hall.