

**Village Hall Working Party Committee meeting - VHWC – 17<sup>th</sup> January 2019 – 7pm – The Fox, Ousden**

**Attendees from the working party:**

Christine Ingham – CI

Richard Hurrell – RH

Julie Pryke – JP

Alan Christie – JR

John Whitefield – JW

**Other attendees:**

Barbara Kitson – BK

Jane Ranner – JR

Sylvia Pettitt – SP

Sarah Christie – SC

Jessamy Saltmarsh – JS

Celia Holt – CH

Ian Harding – IH

John Gale – JG

**Apologies**

Mike Hole - MH

Paul Leaves – PL

**To Action**

**Time Frame**

AC opened the meeting to propose that the new build committee and the hall management committee meetings are split so here that each committee keeps its focus.

AC informed the committee that he had been involved in discussion with somebody who had the potential to assist in funding the village hall rebuild. This was well received by the committee.

AC will try to get a one page document together to summarise, should he be able to progress further discussions.

AC went over the minutes/actions from the previous meeting

- Public meeting, thoughts on dates, content, communication etc. RH commented that the discussion was regarding the move to a different location than agreed at the previous public meeting, so should the village hall be replaced like for like then it is unlikely it would be needed?
- The consensus was should we have a public meeting we would look at April/May
- JP felt that we have been working on this for months and so it might be prudent to wait a little while for the next public meeting
- Planning updates were with MH and so AC will give Mike a call to clarify. Also the situation with Havebury Housing association and any discussion that had taken place.
- SP/CI both commented that should we have the potential to use the fact that we could get funding, to obtain 'match' funding and use this as an opportunity
- It was commented that until we sort out the planning and permissions we are slightly out of step currently.
- In regard to possible council funding JW mentioned that Clive Pollington was moving on. The funding may still be there. JG was not sure where the money may go from the traveller site project that is not now taking place – 800-900k. Clive is leaving at the end of March and a replacement will be elected in May. Fund available may be 10s-100s K but someone else may have different ideas. JG will keep digging. It may be 550k available as 250k is being spent on a smaller site in Wickhambrook.

AC wondered if with demolition costs there could be some help from St Edmundsbury as there is a potential public health issue and some support would be helpful.

AC asked SC about the VAT status on the village hall build. SC said that she had done some digging and that HMRC appear that they will allow 0% VAT on a new build hall. Whether that is relevant to a village hall being refurbished or not was not clear, advice needs to be taken. Having a charitable status is Key.

JR commented that we may need to pay the VAT up front and reclaim post build and so cash flow could be an issue (like a self build)

JG commented that IH is taking on the project on behalf of the Parish Council to look at affordable housing for Ousden, Lidgate and Dalham and wanted to make sure that we all dovetail in to this and not be at cross purposes.

AC agreed that affordable housing should be explored, but the primary drive of this committee is to raise the funds for the new village hall.

IH responded that during the process, should for example the committee come up with a problem on the 'private' home sale, but could be better

from a 'social' housing side we should just keep in contact and dovetail in.

No AOB

Next meeting for the New Village Hall Working party Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> February

DRAFT