



East Brent Village Hall

HALLMARK *

Registered Charity No.269419

Minutes of Management Committee Meeting held in the Village Hall on Monday 20th January 2025 at 7.30pm

Present: Barbara Bolton, Helen Broderick, Rosie Darlaston, Rosemary Gilling, Carol Howard, Dave Nock, Jeff Noyes, Pat Seabrook, Jane Watkins & Stewart Darlaston (Chair)

Apologies: Jan Ward & Julie Ward

Item 1: The Chairman opening the meeting and welcomed those present. He particularly welcomed Jeff Noyes who has agreed to join the committee and become Vice-Chairman. Proposed by Helen Broderick and seconded by Jane Watkins. All presents were in favour.

Item 2 Minutes of the last meeting:

The Minutes were approved as a correct record after one amendment to Item 6 where the amount given in prizes by the 200 Club will be £4,000. Proposed by Barbara Bolton & seconded by Helen Broderick.

Item 3: Matters arising:

1. The amount of £5,000 had not been transferred due to the anticipated expense of roof repairs.
2. It was noted that the 200 Club has given a welcome boost to the finances.
3. All hall users have been informed of the change of rates to £12ph for regular bookings from 1 April.
4. The Harvest Home Committee has had some confusion with the band practice group over use of the hall. This has hopefully been resolved.
5. The brightness of the Fire Exit light has not been checked. It was agreed to use the committee's contacts to find an electrician and request that the hearing loop is also returned to working order.
6. Helen to research the purchase of a post box.

Item 4: Correspondence:

Emails from Somerset Community Council/ACRE had been previously circulated by the secretary.

Item 5: Treasurer's Report

Helen Broderick reported that December had been a lean month for bookings, but this was beginning to improve. Annual revenue is £11-12,000.

Item 6: Hall Bookings:

- Rosie Darlaston had received a request from the builders at Scots Lawn to use the Grace Hudson room once a week from 10am to 4pm to talk to prospective buyers

until they have opened a sale home. This would commence in February and take place on Thursdays.

- The drumming group has moved to Weds afternoon to free up Weds evening.
- An enquiry has been received from Chair Yoga.
- A discussion took place re using an online booking system. This would cost approx. £120 pa. At present, the Booking Clerk, whilst acknowledging the suggestion, felt that as the hall has plenty of regular bookings it was not needed, and she commented that she preferred the personal touch.
- It was noted that the link to the Partish Council website has broken, and Helen will contact the webmaster to get this re-instated.

Item 7: 200 Club

Carol Howard reported that two draws have now taken place. Suggestions received from members as to how the money should be spent ranged from the purchase of daffodil bulbs, table tennis, litter picking in Edingworth (Burger King/McDonalds debris) and community transport. This would leave approx. £2000 for maintenance of the village hall. It was noted that there is already a twice-yearly litter pick organised by the Parish Council and carried out by volunteers.

Item 8: Representative Reports

1. Harvest Home. The Harvest Home committee had not met since the last VH Management Committee meeting but the date for the next Harvest Home has been brought forward to 9th August 2025.
2. Café Hub: This was quieter in December but continues to grow in popularity.
3. Methodist Church: Rosemary reported that the proceeds of the Christmas Sale reached £300 and Christmas collections will be split between two charities. The church's website has recently undergone a makeover.
4. Craft & Chat: 16 members attended the Christmas meal which was a very happy occasion.
5. Parish Council: A planning application has been submitted for two new houses at Ashtrees. They are looking for volunteers to open the cemetery gates by 8am each morning.
6. Carpet Bowls: Dave Nock advised that numbers have increased. They held their Christmas party at Brent Knoll.
7. Allsorts Choir: As Kathy has left the committee, Mary Ellern Harris has agreed to replace her.

Item 9: Widening Engagement

Film Night: Julie Ward was not present but had submitted a report. The December film had been very poorly attended due to Storm Darragh. The next film is Mrs Harris Goes to Paris and will be shown on Friday 7th February. Depending on attendance a decision will be made as to whether to proceed with the March showing of The Imitation Game.

Item 10: Premises/Health & Safety/Safeguarding

- Dan Holland (the decorator) has painted the hall and main kitchen. The woodwork will be varnished during the summer months, and he plans to repair the rough rendering on the kitchen extension.

Item 11: Certificate renewals

- The secretary has applied for renewal of the PPL/PRTS certificate.

Item 12: Emergency Lighting/Fire Exit Audit

- Matt de Plege (Karate) is doing weekly checks
- Steve McGreavy does the emergency lighting test six monthly and Jane Watkins does a monthly check

Item 13: Any Other Business

It was agreed to bring forward the start time of meetings in future from 7.30pm to 7pm.

Item 14: Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on Monday 17th March & will commence at 7pm. The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.35 pm.

Confirmed as a true record of the meeting.....Date.....

Signed by Chairman/Vice Chairman (sign as appropriate)