

Notes of the meeting of the Village Hall Working Group

held on Monday 14th February 2011 at 8.00 p.m.

Present: Peter Newell, Bill Pinkerton, Martin Shann, Robert Crocker, Mary Ann Canning.

1. Apologies

Colin Smith, Brian Leach, Ray Tollady, Roland Butt

2. Notes of Previous Meeting

The notes of the previous meeting held on 8th December were agreed.

3. The New Village Hall Ceiling

Cost estimates have now been received for the 2 alternatives to plasterboard ceilings: timber boarding (approx £2,700 extra) and gypsum acoustic tiles (approx. £3,700 extra). BP has located an alternative compromise in the form of timber acoustic boarding, but no price was available for the meeting.

MS again outlined the specific acoustic considerations for the hall, which has potential multiple use with differing acoustics – lectures, parties, children playing - and a protracted discussion followed on the various needs/options. His overall conclusions were: not to use plasterboard, high tech acoustic panels too expensive and unpredictable, gypsum acoustic tiles better, but would need to be used over entire ceiling and could deaden noise too much. Timber boards would be preferable as they potentially soften sounds, but lack of research to support this (no vested interests in use of timber).

A compromise solution was finally agreed: the use of a combination of 'whitewashed' fireproof coated timber boards above the purlins, with acoustic boards in matching timber veneer finish below the purlins. This is subject to cost not exceeding that for gypsum acoustic tiles (£3,700): PN to ask Arron Hyatt for a costing. The acoustics can also be fine tuned at the end of the construction process using purpose designed acoustic panels on end gables. (These could be decorative features, possibly with fabric covering) – MS to liaise with MAC on this.

4. Treatment of Glulam Beams

RC and MS reported that Glulam beams appear far more attractive in reality than the samples due to the effect of the fine lamination grain. It was agreed that the finish applied to the beams should make them resemble the desired (but unaffordable) Douglas Fir timber and to be in keeping with the Beech flooring.

5. Fund Raising

RC is meeting next week to finalise the Freeland Charitable Foundation paperwork. BP suggested that the launch be tied in with Royal wedding in April. This could be linked to the event being planned at the Yeoman. MAC and LJ will develop a leaflet

and Susan Woolley is currently preparing drawings to be used for this.

6. Progress on Site

Frameworkise have now been signed off and building shell is in place. Work on the roof commences on Thursday 17th February. Work is currently on programme.

7. Wren Funding.

More information had been requested by Wren concerning the tender process, and this has now been supplied by RB. PN is awaiting confirmation from Wren.

8. Interior Design

MAC suggested that interested people from the village could help research fixtures and finishes for items within provisional sums, to achieve the best possible solutions within budget. However, it was pointed out that most (if not all) items have now been specified. MAC to request details from RB or RT and check if any further input is needed.

9. Landscaping to Village Hall

PN has received a letter from the Open Gardens committee generously offering to donate a further £600 for the purchase of a garden bench and ornamental tree for the front garden of the hall, with an appropriate plaque.

RC is donating his labour/ materials for the soft landscape works to the hall. The gardening club are also enthusiastic to help with labour and RC will liaise with them on this.

10. Opening Ceremony

It was decided to approach a local landowner to open the hall,. The idea of a raffle/ auction to join him in officially opening the hall was also put forward, together with an inaugural event such as a run finishing at the new hall as it opens.

11. Any Other Business

a) Play Area Re-siting

Now that the building is in place, the space around it appears greater and it has been suggested by people in the village that the play area be incorporated within a garden area to the rear of the hall creating a dog and football free zone. MAC to draw up an alternative layout for play area using the area at the end of the car park. BP to check whether this will need to be resubmitted to the planning authority.

b) Design Awards

RC asked whether anyone knew of possible design awards which we could submit the finished building for. It was agreed to look into possibilities and to contact Lynne Newin at ORCC.

c) Project Management

RC volunteered to take on the day to day project management of site on behalf of the

working group. It was agreed that this would be helpful, subject to RT's agreement.

d) Publicity

BP emphasised need to keep the village informed of progress – possibly displaying meeting notes on the notice board by the site. It was also agreed to use the Parish meeting on 19th April as an opportunity for publicity. It was also suggested that an open day be held in April to allow people to walk around the hall, subject to clearance with Hyatts and Health and Safety. This could be tied in with the event planned for the Royal wedding.

e) Long term use of Portacabin

BP requested that provision is made for the services to the Portacabin once the hall building contract is completed. It was agreed these should be ducted, and a separate meter maintained.

12. Date of Next meeting

Monday 21st March.