



Stroud Parish Council

Minutes of a Meeting of the Sustainable Development Committee held at Stroud Church on Wednesday 19th of April 2017 at 8.00pm.

Present: Cllr D McKinney, Mr L Fanshawe, Mr C Rogers, Mrs C Underwood and Cllr C Foulston. Mr R Allen arrived at 8.45pm.

Also Present: Mrs E Foulston (Clerk & RFO).

SC1.03.16 Apologies for Absence: Mr C Waller and Mr P Ciniglio.

SC2.03.16 Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests: None.

SC3.03.16 Comments from the Public or Press: None.

SC4.03.16 To Receive and Approve the Minutes of the Meeting on the 21st of March 2017: Minutes of the Meeting held on the 21st of March 2017 previously circulated were agreed and signed.

SC5.03.16 To Receive and Approve the Minutes of the Meeting on the 6th of April 2017: Minutes of the Meeting held on the 6th of April 2017 previously circulated were agreed and signed.

SC6.03.16 To Discuss the Village Hall:

Mr Rogers explained that the previous Village Hall had been pulled down in 2009 and had been unusable for approximately 2 years before that. Prior to that, the hall had been well used for a wide variety of events and since then, events have had to be held in the Seven Stars, Langrish School Hall, the village marquees or in Stroud Church. There are currently 3 Trustees of the Village Hall, all local residents, who look after the fund and donations. The fund is registered with the Charities Commission. The potential Ramsdean Road development has now meant that there is a good opportunity to make use of a building to be gifted to the village and to ask for local volunteers to join a committee to manage this building.

The design of the Village Hall on the development seems fit for purpose but **it was resolved** to ask CALA Homes the following questions regarding the hall: -

1. What fixtures and fittings will be gifted along with the hall and to what specification? This includes items such as fridge capacity and bin storage. Will the community be able to have input into the furnishings? CALA Homes had previously confirmed that the hall would be fully functioning but further clarification on this is needed.
2. How secure can the car parking arrangements be? There is a concern that the parking could be used on a permanent basis and the loop road suggested at the last meeting could affect this.

Further discussion followed regarding a business plan that had been drafted in 2006 for a Village Hall and Mr Fanshawe confirmed that he would circulate a copy of this as soon as

possible. The business plan was thoroughly researched at the time but it could be a useful exercise to complete again. At the time the plan was completed it was showing an expectation of a profit to be made each year. There will potentially be CIL grants available to assist substantially with the running costs of the hall. On an ongoing basis, fundraising events could also be held and grants from the Parish, District and County Councils could also be applied for.

Cllr McKinney confirmed that as 69% of people that replied to a survey at the time the Parish Plan was completed said that they would like a Village Hall and CALA Homes had also stated that the majority of the feedback they had received following the public consultation events agreed with this, there wasn't a need for an additional survey to ask if residents would like a Village Hall but instead the community should be asked who would like to use the hall and for what purposes.

The hall would be gifted to a body and it is the Parish Council's view that this needs to be community run and not Parish Council run. Volunteers could be asked for to join this and the benefits of the charitable status of the body would need to be considered.

It was resolved to speak to other Village Hall committees for further information on managing halls.

The size of the hall and the number of planned parking spaces was also discussed and it was agreed that it would be up to the management of the Village Hall to manage the number of cars expected for event bookings. There would not be a bar in the hall but instead events would have to apply for a temporary licence if necessary but this, and also what type of events are held, would be up to the management of the hall. A local resident has already said that they would be interested in acting as a caretaker for the hall.

Various suggestions for use of the hall were discussed including after school clubs and drinks/buffet events that the Seven Stars are often asked about. In the worst case scenario if the hall was not being used after a few years then there could be the potential to convert this into further housing.

Further questions **it was resolved** to ask CALA Homes about were: -

1. What will the security arrangements be for the hall, such as an alarm, and how will this affect insurance costs?
2. Will the garden area be fully fenced?
3. What heating system will be used?
4. What are the exact dimensions of the hall and the seating capacity? The plan looks like it is bigger than previous plans for a hall from 2006 but this is because there are additional toilet facilities and an office.
5. Would the architect for the Village Hall be available to meet with a small group of people to discuss the queries further?

As a summary, this seems to be a great opportunity for the village to have a new hall after 20 years of work towards this. The hall should be a good choice for people booking events as it will be new, have good facilities and will also have a garden area.

Cllr McKinney confirmed that CALA Homes have agreed to fund a letter drop to all residents in the village explaining further information about the affordable housing register and it was discussed whether requests for ideas and volunteers for the Village Hall could also be included in this. Further information could also be added to the Parish Council and village websites and also social media.

SC7.03.16 To Discuss Hiring a Traffic Management Expert:

Cllr McKinney confirmed that CALA Homes are currently looking into suggestions made at the previous meeting regarding traffic. Following discussion about a quotation of £800 received for hiring an expert **it was resolved** that this item would be deferred to a future meeting, to be discussed when further information requested from CALA Homes and also from Hampshire County Council regarding the traffic survey has been received.

SC08.03.16 Future Agenda Items:

To be confirmed following further information requested from CALA Homes.

SC09.03.16 To Decide the Date of the Next Meeting:

Cllr McKinney suggested Wednesday 3rd May at 7.30pm and the Clerk will check to see if the Church is available to hire for that day.

Meeting Ended: 9.10pm

Signed

Chairman: _____ Date: _____

Clerk – E Foulston