

EGERTON PARISH COUNCIL
Games Barn sub-Committee

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Games Barn AGM held on 19th July 2023 at 19.00pm at Committee Room
Egerton Millennium Hall**

Present: Kayleigh Kench (Egerton pre-School Manager), Kirsia-Lomerud-Olsen (Caretaker and Bookings), Claire Foinette (EPC) Melanie Rawlinson (chair). No members of the public were present.

1. Apologies and Declarations of Interest: Tim Oliver (EPC), Sonia Young, Lois Tilden, Claire Foinette (EPC)
Tim Oliver has resigned from the Committee after many long years serving the village. Thank you for all your hard work Tim.

2. Minutes of the last meeting on 13th February 2023, approved and signed: Proposer: Kirsia Lomerud-Olsen;
Seconded: Kayleigh Kench

3. Update since last meeting: The chair asked Kent Removals about storing village assets (marquees, Christmas huts etc) in the company's storage facility at Court Lodge. The company said this would not be a suitable arrangement for them as the facility is full and they do not have the staff on-site to open up the building on an ad hoc basis. The chair had recently used one of the village marquees and it was clean and in good condition so possibly it could remain in its current storage facility.

The quotes for new heating in the sports barn are now over 12 months old. CF agreed to revisit Coolworx and Ashford Borough Council's quotes to see if they were still in the same price ballpark. (CF to check with LT the status of the ABC quote to see if it did come through). CF to also look for a 3rd quote – MR to resend February 23 meeting notes to CF as this contains the detail of the heating systems required.

On the costs – CF to consider if any grants available that we could use – (G Wickens Trust, ABC, KCC)

4. Chairman's report:

MR thanked all the committee for their hard work and acknowledged that with a lot happening in the village for many committee members, time and resources to devote to the GB had been scarce or delayed but highlighted the successes such as the new locks, fire door, heating quotes, foliage tidying and clear out of the store room as well as Wi-Fi and the first year of operating the new solar panels.

The committee agreed that priorities should be around refreshing the GB and bringing in more users, improving the facilities – lighting, heating, washroom, outside. The pricing structure should be reviewed.

The previous focus on extending the Games Barn building as storage for village assets has been lowered down the list of priorities as the cost/benefit analysis is still unclear.

5. Election of Officers

SY had indicated she would remain as Games Barn secretary and Treasurer and no-one volunteered for the role as chairman so MR continued to take the role.

6. Games Barn rejuvenation:

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Users: KLO said that she had recently received enquiries about children's parties and also two possible new regular customers (children's football teams). Short Mat Bowls, Tennis, Circuit Training and the Pre-School remain the current regular users.

Heating: Three updated/New quotes are to be obtained by CF

Extension to GB: Agreed as not a priority for this year

ABC equipment grant: SY had pointed the committee to ABC grants available for sports equipment. Outside Adult Gym Equipment has been a consideration in the village for quite a while. Lynn Garbutt had just posted about this on a social network. Committee agreed this was worth further investigation and MR suggested that maybe we should ask Lynne Garbutt to join the Committee as she had interest in this area. The committee agreed to this.

KLO raised the issue of the broken goalpost in the GB which needs replacing urgently as 2 of the new enquiries were from football teams. MR said she would look into an ABC grant for this – or possibly approach the Geoff Wickens Trust. It will take time to get a grant through so in the meantime MR said there are lightweight portable goalposts in the Sports Pavilion Machine Room which we may be able to borrow for any football bookings. MR to check this out with the Playing Fields Committee.

The issue was raised that we do need a refresh on what equipment/facilities the village would like to have before we commit to any major purchases. The Committee agreed we should run a survey in a future issue of Egerton Update to help us come up with an action plan around this.

7.SY submitted the GB accounts prior to the meeting:

31st March 2023

Current account balance: £1,993.26

Income during the year: £10, 702.85 – of which £7827 was a VAT return from the works on the roof. Net hire revenue therefore: £2,875.85

Expenditure during the year: £10, 246.56 – of which £7,000 was a transfer out into our deposit account to earn more interest. Therefore net expenditure: £3,246.56

In summary, we spent £370.71 more than we received in income so it would be positive to try and recoup some of those monies in increased hire fees during the coming year to shore us up against unexpected costs/ repairs.

Deposit account balance as at 31st March 2023: £17, 786.07

And as at today 18th July 2023 the accounts are as follows:

Current balance: £2,160.08 – with £255 held on invoice pending payment

Deposit balance: £17, 830.90

Other info – current account

General hire income (in the current account) YTD from 31st March: £600

Other income YTD from 31st March as follows:

Hawks Nest Trust grant: £250

ABC hire (Election: £175

VAT return: £212.98

Deposit account

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Income: interest £44.83

The committee agreed that as the GB income falls short of general running costs then we would bring forward a general price increase (as the village hall has) from October 1st. £7.50 per hour for villagers and £10 per hour for non-villagers. MR to publicise this in the August Egerton Update and KOL to contact all regular users to give them time to prepare for this.

8. AOB

- Concern was expressed that possibly a bird was getting into the GB as there were droppings by the Fire Door. KOL to monitor this to see if it is a major problem or a one-off.
- MR advised it would be about £85 to print an A4 questionnaire for village
- All agreed that the exterior of the GB was looking tired. Agreed that MR would ask for 3 quotes to paint the exterior from village trades: Luke Epps, Tim Kent and Steve Parr. Light green suggested as a possible colour. It was also noted that there is no signage on the GB to indicate its purpose. This to be brought into any refresh quotes.
- The state of the benches in the GB was raised as these are very old-fashioned. This added to equipment review list
- The new lock on the GB was currently not working properly. KOL had called Janes Ashby to come and repair this – there is likely to be a charge

The meeting closed at 20.00

Signed.....

Dated.....