

**EGERTON PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Games Barn sub-Committee**

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Games Barn AGM held on 13<sup>th</sup> February 2023 at 19.00pm at Committee Room  
Egerton Millennium Hall**

**Present:** Kayleigh Kench (Egerton pre-School Manager), Kirsalomerud-Olsen (Caretaker and Bookings), Lois Tilden (EPC), Sonia Young (Parish Clerk, Games Barn secretary and Treasurer), Melanie Rawlinson (chair). No members of the public were present.

**1. Apologies and Declarations of Interest:** Tim Oliver (EPC), Claire Foinette (EPC)

**2. Minutes of the last meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> October 2022, approved and signed:** Proposer: Kayleigh Kench; Seconded: Kirsalomerud-Olsen

**2b. Update since last meeting:** The area around the GB has been cleared of overgrown vegetation. Wi Fi is being installed. Residents have been informed of this in the February 2023 edition of Egerton Update

**3. Accounts:**

**SY ran the committee through the GB accounts:**

**Income year to date ( all figs as at 31 Dec 2022)**

VAT return: £7,827.85 ( sizeable due to works on roof)

Donation (Hawks Nest): £250

Rental income (YTD): £1912.50

Bad Debt ( Being chased) from 2/10: £20.00

Total: £9990.35

**Expenditure (as at 31 Dec 2022)**

£2,555.48

Please note, the above includes extraordinary expenditure on a new back door of £811.23, plus £129 on a new Hoover. Taking this into account (removing the cost of the new door and Hoover ) expenditure is £1,615.25 so our income from rental is tracking at £297.00 'ahead' of 'normal' running costs.

Main saving vs last year is on electricity. We have spent £193.11 YTD.

Last year by this same period we had spent: £235.42

Taking into account the huge increase in electricity costs since last Jan of +175%, we could have been looking at an approx. cost of £647.00 for the same period (using last year's costs as the base point) had we not installed our solar panels. So, on a 'fag packet' calculation, we have saved approx. £454.

We have a pending electricity bill of £109.64 for energy use in Dec which is substantial vs other prior months (and of course in Dec much less sun). That said, it is 5 x the 'norm'. KOL might be able to advise if the heating was left on during the snows to keep frozen water pipes at bay/ or if this was due to something else.

**Bottom line ( as at 31 Dec 2022)**

Current account: £9,169.34

Deposit account: £10,768.06

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**Combined totals: £19,937.40**

It was agreed to transfer £7,000 out of the current account into the deposit account to take advantage of higher interest rates. **SY and CF to do transfer**

**Currently the Games Barn is making a £297 surplus on income versus expenditure in the year**

The concerns raised over the rising cost of heating in December were discussed as the heating system in the main hall is reported as not working and the only other heating is in the kitchen area. KOL said that there had been instances when the kitchen heating had been left on.

KOL confirmed there was still some small expenditure to go through the accounts: Toilet roll etc

**Action: KOL to check if kitchen heater being left on**

**Other issues:** LT reported that she had tidied the kitchen cupboard. Obsolete fluorescent tubes; old paint and 2 broken vacuum cleaners to be taken to the tip: **MR to do this** (NB Blue Hetty is the new working vacuum cleaner)

#### **4. Management of bookings/user base**

Unfortunately, we have lost the Children's Drama booking (was £50 per month) due to a fall in numbers of attendees. There have been other one-off enquiries – scouts, pre-school etc – but no new confirmed booking as yet

#### **5. Heating**

We have Coolworx quote for new heating. Still awaiting quote from Ashford Borough Council Electrical Services. **LT is chasing.**

LT listed some of the additional issues identified by ABC Electrical Services on their visit for consideration: while roof is improved, it is not insulated; the walls are not insulated. Heaters will need to produce a lot of heat to keep GB warm in winter. ABC Electrical Services recommendations included: 6 2 Kilowatt halogen heaters in safety cages; new galvanised conduits to take cables; pre-set thermostat; new fuse board.

Committee briefly discussed cost/feasibility of insulation for walls. Whether or not dry-lining the walls at some stage would be feasible. Underfloor heating negated at the moment as too costly plus we do not know what kind of base the building stands on. **SY to investigate rough costs of dry-lining walls**

All agreed that new heating is the priority spend for the GB

#### **6. Storage**

**Most of equipment in store been identified.** Does not look like there is much unclaimed. Groups to be given to the end of March to claim equipment, An article in the February issue of Egerton Update informs residents that an equipment audit is taking place and to contact KOL with any queries. Following all this, the store will be sorted out by the committee and any unwanted/unclaimed items will be disposed of.

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**7. Proposed Building Extension for storage of village equipment (such as marquees etc)**

LT advised there had been a huge slowing down in new planning applications by ABC which could further delay getting funds through for new village projects.

The committee then questioned if building an extension for storage was the best solution for village assets. Primarily because there is storage available in the sports pavilion plus some of the bigger items (such as the village marquees) have been in barn storage since 2018 (the last village fete) and there are concerns about the condition these may now be in. Same applies to the village "huts" – which again have not been used in a very long time.

In addition there is a commercial storage company now operating in the village at Mid-Kent Removals at Court Lodge. Committee decided to see if this would provide an alternative storage facility for the village equipment which is in a condition to be successfully stored. **MR to contact Mid-Kent removals to find out facilities/potential costs etc plus access conditions before issue is raised with EPC**

**8. EPC Safeguarding Policy**

**SY to distribute to the users of the GB and also to make sure a copy of this is in the building.**

**9. AGM Date agreed as : Wednesday May 24<sup>th</sup>, Millennium Hall Committee Room 7pm**

**10. AOB**

- Concern was expressed by KOL over a "missing" goal post and basketball hoop (both were later found in storage in need of repair)
- KK asked if she could leave some Pre-School rugs in the GB after their sessions as it was difficult to transport them around. Committee agreed as long as stored well and not a H&S risk
- Possibility of installing a "Ring" Type doorbell was mooted as an extra security measure if required
- Also flyer to be made advertising GB as a potential venue for children's parties etc as a potential revenue earner. (MR can design and put into May issue of Egerton Update plus make a PDF available for promotion to school etc.)

*The meeting closed at 20.15.*

Signed.....

Dated.....