



Hirers Meeting

15th September 2025

In Attendance – Paul Banks (Treasurer), Mehboob Dharamsi, Mel Cook, John Kingston, Kate Hylands (Finance manager and Health & Safety Manager), Jenny Burgess (Secretary) , Sam Myers (Cobham Players), Jamie Mc Clean (Cobham Players), Howard and Angela Springett (Pickleball), Dave and Julie Mayhew (Pickleball), Peter Ellaway (Pickleball)

Apologies – Gavin Caddick (Chair) , Nikki Hey (Jessica Pilates), Les Harris (London Cocker Spaniel Society), Myra Brooks (Guildford Accordion Club)

Paul Banks welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for coming.

PB reported that the Village Hall had had a good year and that usage was high both during the week with regular hirers and at the weekends with parties and other events especially in the Main Hall and Taylor Hall.

MC introduced herself and reported that Andy Hylands the Village Hall Maintenance Man had begun to carry out all the work from the Maintenance log that had built up before his appointment. He works a day a month and will also carry out larger jobs on a pro rata basis such as the installation of a new gate into the Main Hall outside area.

AH has so far unblocked drains, replaced lights in the Taylor Hall, removed the old radiator in the ladies toilet, new lighting in the Club Room, new digital locks in the changing rooms, moved plug sockets and replacement blinds in the Taylor Hall.

Bigger projects going forward are a new sign above the entrance to the Village Hall which has been ordered and will be installed very soon and a soft pour play area in the Taylor Hall garden by the canopy which will be installed in the next 3 – 4 months.

Peter Ellaway (Pickleball) raised a question about the Main Hall floor. He said that the players from the Monday and Wednesday afternoon sessions have said that the new surface to the court is creating substantial glare from windows and lights and is creating difficulties in sighting the bounce of the ball. He asked if there was anything that could be done.

PB replied that we used the same company who have always resurfaced the floors and have not come across this problem before. It is a substantial outlay of £12k to get the floors resurfaced. He said that we would contact the company to see if they had any suggestions as to what could be done.

Angela Sprigett (Pickleball) suggested that tiebacks for the curtains may let in more light.

Jamie Mc Clean (Cobham Players) said that the blue stage curtains sometimes get stuck. It was suggested that it would be something that would need to be looked at by a professional when the work on the stage was being carried out rather than asking AH to look at them. The curtains and runners are all part of the overall necessary work and it was not felt that it would be possible to carry out some of the work before January as all work would have to be done as a whole.

Jamie Mc Clean asked if the Village Hall had a safeguarding policy. KH said that it could be found on the Village Hall website and in the Terms and Conditions of Hire.

Angela Springett asked if there could be a towel rail for the towels in the changing rooms. KH said that there should be one on the end of the basins in the changing rooms but if she was mistaken we could have them installed.

Angela Springett also asked if hirers were able to use the Tea towels in the kitchen. JB stated that we do encourage hirers to bring their own but hirers are welcome to use the ones in the kitchen . Angela Springett said that there was a large amount of dirt on the top of the tall cupboards in the Main hall. KH said that we would look into this .

Sam Myers asked who was responsible for locking the hall. She said that CP locked the front door and then left via the kitchen. KH said that we do ask the last people to leave the hall to turn out the lights and lock the door but Joel or Andy do call in to check that everything is locked and lights are off. There is no liability to the hirers regarding locking.

Jamie Mc Clean asked if the projector was safe and in working order. KH stated that it was regularly used and had recently been PAT tested.

Howard Springett raised 3 points regarding the increase of the area around the Pickleball court. He suggested moving the Fire extinguisher by the double doors at the back of the hall to an outside wall . KH said she would speak to the company who deal with all our Fire regulations as to whether this would be permissible

He also suggested thinner radiators and asked if the stage was going to be refurbished as the edge of the stage looked very untidy.

Howard Springett asked about the status of the Constitution. PB stated that we were very close to getting this all finalised.

Meeting closed at 6.40pm