

# HARMSWORTH MEMORIAL TRUST

Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> July 2013 in the Memorial Hall, following Benenden Parish Council meeting at 20.00, pursuant to notice

Present: Cllr Reynolds, Cllr Beattie, Cllr Butler-Graham, Cllr Grant, Cllr Walden, Cllr Thomas and Cllr Barker

In Attendance: Fiona Chalk – Clerk

**062/13 APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Cllr North, Cllr Cook, Cllr Hall, Cllr Holden and Cllr Rook

**063/13 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

**064/13 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 24<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2013**

The minutes were unanimously approved and signed by the Chairman, subject to the word 'Committee' being removed after Housing Association in 055/13.

**065/13 MATTERS ARISING**

*Iden Green* – Cllrs noted English Rural Housing are open to having a lease agreement on the land, and have requested it be for 135 years. Cllrs unanimously agreed for the Chair to approach Lambert and Foster, who have valued the land, to give a valuation for a lease, index linked and reviewable. Cllrs discussed the implication of the covenant on the land and noted that the covenant will be the responsibility of English Rural Housing, which needs to meet the two criteria for release of this covenant, namely, that the occupiers of the property are descendants of the current population and secondly, a vote of the parish needs to take place on agreement of the sale of the land for rural housing, if the land is sold. It was agreed a Working Party be set up to discuss ways to progress this matter and refer its findings to the next HMT meeting. Cllrs Reynolds, Barker, Waldren, and Cook to form the Working Party.  
**Chairman to Action**

**066/13 BENENDEN VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT**

Councillors noted:

The photocopier contract is to be taken over by the Parish Council  
When the next fire inspection is carried out, the impact of the Community Office door being locked needs to be clarified – it isn't currently marked as a fire exit.

Wireless boiler controls to be placed outside the Community Office.

Booking figures to be formalised – ie booking rates, availability etc.

A new screen has been ordered

An Asset register is being drawn up

The details of the Community Office rental need to be clarified by the Clerk  
Councillors noted that currently, all profits from the Village Hall are ploughed back into the Village Hall. This is not the correct procedure as all profits belong to the

Harmsworth Trust and should be passed back to the Harmsworth Trust for it to distribute as it sees fit. The Harmsworth Trust owns the Village Hall, it is its biggest asset and needs to be maximised more than it currently is.

It was noted that the lighting costs incurred by the Village Hall committee were about £7,500 over budget.

**Clerk to Action**

**067/13 ST GEORGES BUILDING**

Councillors noted that a surveyor has given an opinion that the chimney does not need any repair currently, but will require future work. It was noted that this was not a paid opinion. It was resolved that surveyors be approached to quote for carrying out a Quinquennial review of the St Georges building to give a review of the condition and likely works required over the next 5 years.

**Clerk to Action**

**068/13 FINANCE REPORT**

The Bank reconciliation, transaction list and cheques payable for June were noted and approved.

**070/13 ITEMS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION**

None.

**071/13 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> September 2013 immediate following the Benenden Parish Council meeting 8.00pm at Memorial Hall, Benenden

The meeting closed at 10.15pm