

Joint Buckden Parish Council & Village Hall Trust liaison meeting

Wednesday 12th April 2023 7.00pm via Zoom

Notes

Attendees: Matt Beldam, Cynthia Alers, Caroline Underwood, Sue Ashwell,

Storage

It was confirmed that BPC no longer needs to move storage as a matter of urgency, in the light of that and the complications of a joint project it was agreed VHT would go ahead with a stand-alone project. This simplifies the process for them and reduces the funding gap. It was confirmed that there is a need for VHT to replace the storage because of the health and safety issues with the current provision. It was also noted that this decision does not preclude BPC working with VHT to add to storage at a later stage, if required. It was noted in that case an agreed legal agreement would need to be put in place to protect both parties.

Office hire

BPC confirmed that the new office and room hire arrangements were working well. It means BPC has less need for room hire, freeing up the rooms for external hire. It also allows BPC and VHT to have private office space which is sometimes required.

Finances

It was noted that VHT should invoice BPC for payment of grass cutting grant asap.

Any application for next year's grant needs to be in by September. BPC will be advertising the BPC's grant opportunities in this month's Roundabout.

The Village Club is doing well, which is encouraging. The VHT have had to increase costs to regular hirers such as the preschool and Buckfest; this is because the very high energy costs have to be passed on to hirers as they need to pay the full costs.

BPC will be asking for people to volunteer their skills, we might find support for bid writing, if so we will pass that information on.

The Valley and grounds

The valley has now had 2,000 fish put in and swans are hopefully nesting. There is evidence of growing biodiversity in the area. A new Trustee is organising a group to carryout regular clearance around the valley.

VHT still want to Improve the MUGA CU will pass on the email that was sent after the discussions that were held with HDC.

Annual Parish meeting

CU gave MB and CA the date of the Annual Parish meeting and explained that an annual report from the VHT is part of the meeting. MB had provided a report last year but was unable to attend. This year he is able to present the report in person.

Date of next meeting

Suggested date Wednesday 28th June 7.00pm via Zoom