

**GODSHILL VILLAGE HALL
REGISTERED CHARITY NO 1049206**

**MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING HELD AT GODSHILL VILLAGE HALL ON MONDAY
20 JULY 2015 AT 7.30**

PRESENT

Mrs A Child (Chairman of of Godshill Parish Council and chair of Trustees of the Village Hall Management Committee, 4 parish councillors and 18 members of the public.

INTRODUCTION

A report was circulated and forms part of these minutes.

Mrs Child stated that the Village Hall belongs to the parish community and it was for the community to decide whether the Village Hall is fit for purpose. The Clerk had a list showing that only the Parish Council and Rock Solid were regular users, although in comments from the floor, it was apparent this was not a complete list.

The Ladies toilet is out of action, the roof in that area has completely gone and quotations received for repairs are in the region of £6,000. Electrics need repairing and there is only parking for 5 cars.

At present, the rental from the ground floor accountancy practice pays for electricity and vital repairs but shortly the hall will not be safe to use.

A valuation has been received of only £120,000 due not only to the state of the building but the problem with a garage at the rear, which is part of the hall structure but is in the ownership of the neighbouring property Glenholme. There is no reference in the deeds to the garage, which is another obstacle.

Concern was expressed from the floor that should the village hall be sold, the pantomime scheduled for January would not have a venue. Assurance was given that rehearsals should continue and the hall would be available for January 2016 use by the group concerned.

Any decision from this meeting would have to be placed before the Charity Commissioners for approval. Only residents in the parish would be able to vote on any proposal.

To summarise: Is the village hall fit for purpose? Would it be used more if it were refurbished?

Should the building be sold, any monies would have to be reinvested for the benefit of the parish. Would the parish support a new building on Central Mead if grants as well as match funding could be raised?

A proposition was unanimously carried by a vote of 23 that the Parish Council should proceed with the sale of the village hall, subject to Charity Commission approval, with funds being raised put into a community project, possibly at Central Mead.

Updates on progress would be available at Village Hall Committee meetings, starting at 7pm on 7 September next.

Further comment:

Marc Youngusband volunteered to do repair work in the Ladies at cost price;
Assurance was given that dog walkers could still use Central Mead, should the building proceed as a footpath runs across the area;
Local businesses should be asked to sponsor ongoing maintenance;
A pantomime could possibly be staged solely to raise monies for the hall.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.10 pm

Chairman