



Minutes of Meeting Held on 15th July 2026

Present:

Committee

Lyn Easton – Chair

Chloe Shuttlewood – Secretary

Fiona Smith

Caretaker

Gareth Posnett

Members of the public

Ann Price; Tom Price

			Action
1		Apologies for Absence Neil Taylor – Treasurer. Jenny Sandars was absent.	
2		Minutes of Previous Meeting The Minutes of the meeting held on 10 th June were approved by LE and seconded by FS.	
3		Matters arising from the Minutes	
	3.1	The bouncy castle policy has been updated; the deposit for the work on the small hall windows has been paid; the notice boards have been ordered; the Section 106 money for work on the roof and windows will shortly be received; applications for a grant for the new fire alarm system are ongoing; and it has been decided that there will not be unisex toilets in the toilets upgrade.	
4		Chairman's Report	
	4.1	School House (next door to the Village Hall): Tom Price reported that the Trustees of the Free School Charity have taken the decision to put School House up for sale. This has been approved by the Charity Commission. There are numerous reasons for this, including the significant cost that would be required to modernise the property and comply with new rental legislation (e.g. triple glazing, new heat pump, insulation, etc). The property will be put on the market shortly.	

		Before the sale, the boundary at the back of the property will be amended, and the connecting door between School House and the main hall will be bricked up. TP queried whether the windows overlooking the property should be frosted; LE will discuss this with the Pre-School leader. It will be written into the contract of sale that the Village Hall would still have access to the back of the building (e.g. for scaffolding/work to the roof).	LE
	4.2	Bookings procedure: There was a problem with a recent booking, which was a teenage birthday party. The hall was left in a mess and some items (shelf, door) were broken. The Committee decided to meet in August to discuss amending the bookings process, in order to request refundable deposits from hirers outside the village.	All
	4.3	Work taking place over the summer: Windows (also being cleaned inside and out); roof.	
	4.4	The Committee agreed that there would be no meeting in August.	
5		Treasurer's Report (including Restoration Fund/Appeal)	
	5.1	At the start of the financial year, on the 1st April, 2026 the Trust had balances of £25,040.21 in the building society account and £13,929.59 in the Santander current account. Following the Committee's meeting in April the building society resources were increased to £30,000 and transferred to a 160 notice account. Notice was simultaneously given to the building society to access these resources, if required, in November. The current Santander balance stands at £27,162.19, following the receipt of the £20,000 grant from the Medbourne Trust. Taking account of these structural changes to the Santander account day to day activities have decreased the balance by £1,807.61* to £12,121.98 (*this includes the payment for the deposit on the secondary glazing in the small hall - £1,995.83). All the invoices for the last term have now been issued and total c£4,700. Without any further outgoings these invoices will increase the Santander balance to c£16,800. Grant Applications 1) A grant application has been submitted to Harborough District to access the £14,200 Section 106 resources that have been allocated to the Village Hall. The Chair sought three quotes from contractors and this proved a good value for money exercise. So much so that the Committee were able to make an application to resolve the	

		repairs to the roof and also pay for the secondary glazing to the small hall from this source. At the time of writing there is no outcome to report yet from the Grants Team. 2) In addition to this, the Chair has applied for a Community Grant from Harborough District Council to fund the new fire alarm requirements. 3) There is still a £5,000 grant to be accessed from Medbourne Parish Council; and there are two outstanding identified projects that need to be completed - the refurbishment of the toilets and also making good the rear wall. Santander account After a protracted amount of correspondence with Santander since the beginning of March, the bank have paid £150 in compensation to recognise the ongoing effort sorting out all the matters Santander have raised over the last four months. Whilst there are only nominated signatories to the account Santander have said they need all the Committee members' details to comply with the banking regulations. These seem to have been driven by all the details on the Charity Commission website. This has been a time consuming and onerous process which hopefully has been stabilised now and all the threatening letters that have been sent by Santander will cease. <i>Neil Taylor</i> <i>Treasurer</i>	
6		Caretaking/Maintenance/Defibrillator	
	6.1	GP advised that the Village Hall should close for bookings whilst the roof work is being carried out.	
	6.2	The temperature of the hot water has become dangerous; GP has put up posters to warn users of this danger. An engineer is coming to look at this issue.	
	6.3	"Caution: Wet Floor" signs have been ordered.	
	6.4	GP advised that the Pre-School wooden furniture is unsafe and needs replacing.	
7		Bookings Usual bookings this month – see above for issue with recent booking.	

8		Events Duncan Murray wine tasting on 14 th August – tickets have now sold out. FS will buy final items required such as plastic water glasses, bread baskets and fairy lights (which can be re-used at future events). All Committee members who are free on that date can come and help with set-up. FS has acquired some great raffle prizes. It should be a fantastic evening and will bring the community together.	
9		Any Other Business N/A	
10		Public Question Time GP explained to Tom Price the details of works taking place to the roof (e.g. flashing work, and checking the state of the main chimney).	
11		Date of Next Meeting There will be no meeting in August. September – date TBC.	

There being no further business the meeting closed at 20:00.