

**THE MERRY BELLS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
ON THE 6TH FEBRUARY 2025
HELD IN THE COFFEE ROOM**

Present:	Mr T. Blightman	Mr I. McGregor
	Mr I. Germain	Mr J. Morrison
	Dr J. Guy	Mrs F. Fox
	Mrs L. Tully	

1. Apologies for Absence

Mrs J. Slade

2. Agree the Minutes of the Last Meeting

The Minutes were agreed as a true record

3. Matters arising from the Minutes

There were no matters arising

4. Treasurers Report

2024 Results – IG and TB to meet with Bob Minty 13th Feb

Jan 2025 results: Only a small surplus of £135 was recorded (compared to £2,768 for Jan 2024). Although income in total was higher than last year (rents were up £1450 but hirings were down £346 mainly because last January the Wine Society paid for the year in advance) there were some exceptional costs including the valuation survey for the Library premises, lighting repairs in the kitchen and hall, new microphones and kitchen shutter.

IG suggested and it was agreed that it would be helpful to establish an Escrow account to manage our programme of planned exceptional expenditure separately from the ongoing accounts so that we can continue to monitor the underlying performance.

5. Maintenance Report

Update on Potential Exceptional Repairs:

- Fire doors on order but delay means expected early March
- Rechargeable Microphones now installed
- New screen being installed 14th February
- Subsidence and window frame repair scheduled for 7th Feb
- PV Battery still awaiting savings calculation
- Kitchen shutter ordered expected end March/early April
- Kitchen refurb – follow up meeting with supplier 12th Feb
- All others on hold.

Car Park Management:

Following some feedback about the plan to introduce enforcement, there was a long discussion about the plan. The conclusion was to proceed as planned, parking for 2 hours only, IH and Library to be allowed only number of exemptions in line with their spaces, have an overnight exemption if possible.

On-going maintenance:

The gas meter housing box on outside wall needs repairing (IM to take a look).

Still no word on replacement paint for steps (LT to chase).

PAT testing complete

6. Correspondence

A request from the WI to consider changing the chairs in the Main Hall to lighter ones was discussed but considered not a priority at this time.

It was noted that Village Hall Week takes place in March but no activity planned.

7. Booking Update

Bookings similar to last year

8. Monthly Calendar

The Surveyor's valuation report had been received and forwarded to the solicitors who should be drawing up a draft lease. TB to chase

9. Any Other Business

It was agreed the AGM will take place at 7pm on Thursday 5th June, to be followed immediately by the Trustee meeting

10. Date of the next meeting:

Thursday 6th March 2025 in the Coffee Room at 5 pm