**Blairmore Hall Trust**

**Committee Meeting 26th November 2023**

**Present: ,**

**Barry Thomson BT, Stephen Mitchell SFM, Catherine Rae CR, Anne Garrod Stephenson AG, Sally Munro SM , Brian Shewry BS, Phil Ambagtsheer PA, Bernie Connor BC**

**Apologies Sue Rule, Andy Blackburn, Emily Wallace**

As there was no expression of interest in taking on the Chairperson’srole Barry Thomson took the chair.

**Matters Arising from the Minutes**

BT advised that work remains ongoing in the preparation of the submission for Planning permission for the removal of the chimney in terms of completing the package required by the LL&T Authority. The production of the plans is required to verify title of the building in the deeds EW agreed to review the current situation at the last meeting.

The action to erect a small stand for the visitors’ book was completed by PA and thanks given. The stand is easily dismountable for groups such as the Country Dance Group so it does not become a hazard. PA to send SFM a notification of the Bill of Materials to claim the expenses arising. An item was also raised about the electrical system safety switches tripping PA agreed that he would investigate and also agreed to take on other small maintenance jobs.

EW had previously proposed a public meeting in January to alert the local population the date was agreed as 21st January to be run in conjunction with a Hall Committee Meeting. (BT later proposed that the public meeting should be deferred until the following month due to priorities with the Highgate Hall grant funding arising in the interim.)

Stephen Mitchell advised that there had been a good response to the GO Fund for the Hall Chimney with the fund standing at £ 494 to date and it was agreed to keep this open for at least another month.

Leaflets were produced and distributed to advertise the Ceilidh and the funding opportunity.

The preparations for the Ceilidh were confirmed to be on track as advised at the previous Committee Meeting . It was arranged that volunteers to help with set up would meet at 6.30 p.m.

**Treasurer’s Statement**

SFM advised that the current balance for Hall Funds stood at £5465.63

**Sale of the Highgate Hall**

The Secretary advised that he had heard through the KCC that there was a sale in progress for the Highgate Hall. From previous information it was known that there may be an opportunity for the BHT to receive some funding from the proceeds of the Sale. The Secretary said he would keep in touch on this matter, though a rapid response was not anticipated.

**NHS Hall Hire**

BT reviewed the circumstances where there was an apparent double booking between the Shore Art Club and the NHS vaccinations programme leading to a cancellation of the Art Club session. The Secretary’s investigation established that the NHS had booked a session between 14.00 hrs and 19.00 hrs but had not passed the information on to the clinical team of the NHS who arrived at their usual start time of 9.30 a.m. In view of the public appointments made by the NHS the Art Club conceded and allowed the vaccinations to go ahead. Avoiding a conflict of interest Janet Holm represented the Art Club and Barry Thomson represented the BHT. Correspondence with the NHS indicated that they were in error and a full apology was received, BHT ascertained that the NHS could adjust their software to meet different timings, such that in future it is known that bookings on the same day at differing times can be honoured by the NHS.

**Accident for Country Dance Outside the Hall**

BT had heard from various sources that there had been an accident at the bus stop after a country dance session. The committee is grateful to BC for offering a clear view of events have personally received a description of the event from the lady involved. It appeared that she tripped on the end of the ramp leading to the passenger shelter, which led to the person’s fall against her own vehicle and then to the ground leading to multiple fractures and a visit to hospital. It was acknowledged that the area opposite the row of shops is in darkness as the street lighting does not cover this area. This is the desired situation by the residents in the area so as sleep is not disturbed. The situation was known to the KCC and a suggestion made that the ends of the ramp should be painted with a Hazard marking to reduce the risk of further similar incidents. There was no liability pertaining to BHT.

**Date of Next Meeting**

The date of the next meeting was set to be 2,00 p.m. 21st January 2024

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