Minutes of VH Committee meeting – 11th October 9-10

Present: Peter Stokes, Suzy Stokes, Chris Reid, Suzannah Rihn, Pat Draper

Chris gave detailed background on the project and we spent the meeting understanding the issue and discussing the various options.

It was felt that, at this late stage, making a decision on this matter was very difficult as there were no easy options and it was important to get a clear view from the entire committee not just the people at this meeting. Hence, while a clear view has emerged at this meeting, we felt that each committee member should individually vote on three possible options, the majority option to go forward.

Fully underwriting the project and going straight ahead was unanimously seen as impractical given the cost and fact that grant funding sources would then be closed to us. The only options were seen as either delaying it to secure funding; cancelling it completely; or asking Rachel if she would work to a lower budget.

The three options we see are as follows:

1.Cancel the entire project, with [£100?] costs reimbursed/full apologies to Rachel et al. Leave the photograph as is, possibly replacing it exact like for like.

2. Set a budget of £500 and ask Rachel if she is willing to work to this project ie. an upgrade to the photo but without the bells and whistles. If Rachel is understandably not willing to do this, then revert to option 1.

3. Agree to underwrite the project subject to the following caveats: delay until funds raised; £1000 commitment to be made by the Parish Council; Rachel and colleagues to action and raise the grants and the village hall to commit £750 upfront plus commitment to cover the costs of the projects if no grants are raised. It was understood that this amount may be higher than the Parish Council is willing to fund and they have not yet made a commitment to fund the project.

After extensive discussion we felt that while a very difficult decision, and option 2 had attractions, on balance it might just be best to cancel the entire project and make the associated fulsome apologies. Critical reasons for this - Aside from the high project cost and potential difficulty of fundraising, the project could crowd out other priorities for the upkeep of the hall. It was also felt that the village hall, being a venue for rental rather than a museum, does not need an updated or improved commemoration which many users will have no interest in and the existing photo record, with perhaps a better frame, was more or less sufficient. Finally concerns were raised that the project was not in line with our mandate as a charity.

KINGSTON VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Income and Expenditure Account - Year to 31st December 2025

(2024)	**Expenditure**	**£**	**Income**	**£**	*(2024)*
-885.22	Electricity and Oil	-808.95	Karate Hall Hire	412.50	198.00
-180.48	Water rate	-213.31	Other Hire	1666.35	1053.50
-1252.34	Hall maintenance	-1128.08	Quiz & Chips (excl. bar takings)	691.97	479.21
-10300.00	Equipment	-132.65	BBQ (excludes pub takings on day)	1074.00	41.25
-744.03	Insurance	-827.61	Pub (including at events)	3989.21	2670.43
-294.00	Premises/Bar licence fees/charges	-473.50	Christmas fair	0.00	12.00
-1392.19	Cleaning of Hall	-965.57	Other income (primarily interest)	1342.42	257.03
-173.66	Village Children's Xmas party	-163.06	Grants	0.00	9800.00
-42.00	Sundry expenses eg. stationery, loo roll etc	-64.50			
-1256.23	Pub stock	-4008.95			
-16520.15	**Total expenditure**	**-8786.18**	**Total income**	**9176.45**	*14511.42*
	Excess/(deficit) income over expenditure	**390.27**	*2024: excess of expenditure over income*		*-2008.73*
-16520.15	**Total**	**-9176.45**		**9176.45**	*16520.15*

Balance Sheet 31st December 2025

General Fund	**£**	**Net assets**	**£**
		Balance at Bank:	
Current a/c at 1st Jan 2025	5416.68	Current a/c at 31st Dec 2025	3964.84
Deposit a/c at 1st Jan 2025	1809.00	Deposit a/c at 31st Dec 2025	2346.00
Savings account (Cambridge BS)	15000.00	Savings account (Cambridge BS)	16305.11
Cash in hand at 1st Jan 2025	229.44	Cash in hand at 31st Dec 2025	229.44
Pub cash float at 1st Jan 2025	50.00	Pub cash float at 31st Dec 2025	50.00
Balance at 1st Jan 2025	**22505.12**		
Add excess of income over expenditure	390.27		
	22895.39	**Balance at 31st Dec 2025**	**22895.39**

Notes

1. The accounts are prepared on a receipts and payments basis ie they only reflect items that have been received or paid for in the year.
2. Amounts due from the Parish Council, and from the Parish Church in respect of Hall rental, are not included in the above accounts as they have not yet been received.
3. Pub evening expenditure includes pub stocks held at the year end for use in pub evenings in 2026.