

Bamburgh Pavilion Association Committee Meeting

Thursday 18th February 2021 via ZOOM

Present: Gillian Bardgett, Barbara Brook, Bill Brook, Dave Carney, Susan Gibson, Barbara Jackson, Linda Kirby, Derek Mallinson, Joan Miller.

1. Apologies for Absence

Tony Baldwin, Lorna Colligan.

2. Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 25th November 2020

Agreed and will be signed when we can meet up again.

3. Matters Arising

The renewed copy of the Vulnerable Adult and Child Protection Policy document has been put up on the noticeboard.

Our 'food business' has been assessed and given a 5* rating. The assessor has no plans to return.

Tony Baldwin has looked at our electricity contract and has chosen the best one for us.

Bill reported that the PAT testing has been done and all is well.

4. Treasurer's Report including Covid Grant Applications Update

Linda reported that our disposable income is £11k with over £4k in deposits (weddings and fairs). On top of that we have received grants totalling £55k since last spring. Bill said that we have received 10 grants in total: 4 for the Pavilion, 3 for the sports field and 3 for the tennis court. So far we have committed £10k to buy the new sports field roller.

Bill said that as we had received an extra £6k for the sports field he didn't believe it was right to accept money for the roller from the cricket club and this was agreed unanimously, with Bill declining to vote.

Dave queried whether we should still accept money from the Castle towards the roller but we all agreed that we should; members of the cricket club keep the sports field in a pristine condition which enhances the whole area, to the benefit of the Castle.

We have a further grant coming to the Pavilion but we were reminded that the upkeep of the Pavilion is around £4k a year to include insurance, heating, cleaning etc.

5. Booking Secretary's Report with new booking system update

Susan reported that the new booking system went online on 16th January and is working well. Some bookings have been made on the understanding that they may need to be cancelled. There are 3 Castle weddings for this year but already 7 for 2022 and 1 for 2023. There are several Pavilion reception weddings, the first one being 5th June. This online booking system costs £120 per year, with one free month given. We recorded our thanks to Susan for all the hard work she has put in to this.

The agenda items were discussed out of sequence.

7. Charity Commission amendment to our objectives

The Charity Commission has accepted our objectives as set out in 2010 and no change is necessary. They said they are missing documents for some years and we have sent them again.

8. Committee Membership

There is one vacancy and Joan has suggested Jamie. Linda will ask him.

9. Insurance Cover whilst Pavilion is closed

If anyone goes into the Pavilion whilst it is closed please let Bill know.

10. NTC Performances

Bill has received favourable responses from the committee. We have offered all the entrance monies to them so we're not locked into a fee. If 'The Importance of Being Earnest' is on the Green there might be a fee owing to the Castle.

11. Any Other Business

Linda has worked very hard with Jamie to develop the new Pavilion website and our thanks go to them. It is: bamburghpavilion.org.uk – Susan has worked on this as well to link it to the Northumberland villages websites. Jamie is to be asked to contact Joan Mitchell, the Parish Council clerk, to inform her of our new website so she can keep the link but delete the old website. Linda stressed the importance of photos on the website so that questions to Susan are minimised.

Barbara J mentioned that the Castle often has outdoor performances in the summer and we should make sure none clash with any proposed NTC play.

Gillian asked if there was any news from the theatre company who had wanted to stage Hansel and Gretel just before Christmas but nothing has been heard from them.

6. Maintenance Programme including External Refurbishment, Roof, Disabled Toilet and Tennis Court repaint

Bill introduced this very important agenda item and Linda stressed that the justification for accepting the grants is to keep the Pavilion in good order for the villagers and holidaymakers.

We have looked previously at external refurbishment but the estimated cost was £30k + VAT and we didn't have enough money. Planning was also an issue but now we have the money we feel we should look into it more. Bill is very interested in cement planks which are on two houses on Links Road and look very good. No maintenance is needed for them. The roof could be checked at the same time.

We have talked many times about a disabled toilet but feel that now is a good time to make progress with this. Joan feels that the toilets are depressing and that perhaps they should be knocked down and we should start from scratch. She queried if anyone used the showers and even though they are only used occasionally a previous Pavilion grant was specifically for team sports in Bamburgh so the showers must be kept. Barbara J said that we need a professional to comment and draw plans and Derek agreed, mentioning that Occupational Therapists are trained to help with this. Suggestions from everyone included

redesigning the whole of the back of the Pavilion, getting rid of the boiler, building an extension and creating more accessible space generally.

Barbara B then discussed her talks, as Parish Council chair, with NE Beach Access to look into increased disabled access to the beach. Future talks will include meetings with the AONB, NCC and the Pavilion committee. It is hoped to create storage near the cricket containers to keep specialist/beach access wheelchairs and a disabled toilet is desirable nearby. The disabled toilets in the village and Links Road aren't suitable for beach access so the Pavilion site has been chosen. It was agreed that Barbara B asks if there is a specialist at NCC and she will also ask Kirsty Dobson if she knows of an OT. Joan is to ask at Disabled Living in Gosforth. Barbara J is to check her contacts.

If the tennis court is resurfaced at the end of this year the estimated cost is £2½/3k depending on the level of work needed. We agreed to ask George to do this.

Grants are available for refurbishments and this was an excellent discussion to start the ball rolling. A sub-committee will be formed to gather more information.