

KNEBWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting of the Amenities Committee held on Wednesday 25th January at 7.30 p.m. at Knebworth Village Hall

Present: Councillors Colin Stringer (Chairman), Steve Hemingway, Charlotte Cosson and Roger Willcocks

In Attendance: Tracy Lawson (Clerk)

1. Apologies

Councillor Willcocks apologised for arriving late.
Councillors Jobling and Kugathasan were absent without notification.

2. Declarations of Interest

Mr Hemmingway declared his wife is a member of one of the groups receiving the additional discounts on hiring rates.

3. Minutes

Proposed by Mr Hemingway, seconded by Mrs Cosson and
Resolved: that the minutes of the meeting of the Amenities Committee Meeting held on 16 November 2022 be approved.

4. Financial Review

Proposed by Mr Stringer, seconded by Mrs Cosson and
Resolved: to approve the management accounts for the recreation grounds and village hall to 31 December 2022.

5. Village Hall

Mr Willcocks joined the meeting.

Proposed By Mrs Cosson, seconded by Mr Willcocks
Resolved to increase Hire Charges by approximately 5% with effect from 1st April 2023.

Proposed by Mrs Cosson, seconded by Mr Willcocks
Resolved to continue the additional discount of 30% to specific hirers to 31st March 2024

5.1. Maintenance of Village Hall

There has been a problem getting the hall up to an acceptable temperature during the cold snap. Options for supplementary heating and hall closure during severe conditions were discussed.

Proposed by Mrs Cosson, seconded by Mr Hemmingway and
Resolved: to ask CDA for advice on heating village halls.

The sump pump in the basement has broken.
 Proposed by Mrs Cosson, seconded by Mr Stringer and
Resolved: to purchase a sump pump up to a cost of £500

Proposed by Mr Hemmingway, seconded by Mrs Cosson and
Resolved: to hire an 8 yard skip for clearance of basement

The committee discussed hall hire and access for hirers.
 Proposed by Mrs Cosson, Seconded by Mr Stringer and
Resolved: To purchase a key box Master Lock Combination push button.

Proposed by Mr Stringer, seconded by Mrs Cosson and
Resolved; to accept quote from Peter Wright for two kitchen strip lights and to replace on front of the building. A query was raised regarding the hours that the front light is on. This is to be checked.

6.1 Recreation grounds

Proposed By Mrs Cosson, seconded by Mr Willcocks and
Resolved to increase the hire charges by approximately 5% with effect from 1st April 2023.

6.2 Maintenance – Recreation Ground

Proposed By Mrs Cosson, seconded by Mr Stringer and
Resolved to accept T&J Fire quote for the intruder alarm at a cost of £337.50

It was agreed that committee should engage with the football club. A meeting is to be arranged and Mr Stringer will attend and also introduce Tracy Lawson

7. **Allotments**

Mr Stringer has agreed to arrange a meeting with the Allotment plot holders in February.

8. **Any Other Business**

8.1 The Chairman reported that the KATS are disbanding and will revert to play readings in their own homes. The clerk is to contact the group to discuss removal of its equipment.
 The stage lighting will be discussed at a future meeting.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.46.

Chairman _____

Date _____
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