

Rippingale Village Hall Management Committee

Minutes of Meeting of Committee

Tuesday 1st December 2015 at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall

		<u>ACTION</u>
1	<p><u>Apologies for Absence:</u> Annette Lumb, Rowena Grew</p> <p><u>In attendance:</u> Wendy Grey (Chair), Andrew Flatters (Vice Chair), Dawn Holden (Secretary), Colin Grey, Johnnie Grew, (representing Rowena Grew), Carol Jepson (WI Representative), Mike Hallas (Temporary representative, Parish Council), Richard Etherton, (SKDC Licensing Officer) and several members of the public.</p>	
2	<p>WG opened the meeting and introduced Richard Etherton who is a Licensing Officer for South Kesteven District Council. He is also a retired Police Officer. RE answered questions from the committee members regarding the rules surrounding the necessary licenses required at Rippingale Village Hall. He advised that the current premise licence allows for alcohol to be sold on the premises and also for the public to bring their own alcohol into the hall for their own personal consumption. RE pointed out that if a member of the public was to bring their own alcohol into the hall and then attempt to give it to a minor, it would be the responsibility of the committee to step in and prevent this from happening. If the committee took no action they could be held responsible should any problems arise, i.e. a minor became intoxicated and this resulted in anti-social behaviour occurring. He suggested that if the committee continue to allow the public to bring alcohol to private parties, etc, then a member of the committee should be present to ensure that all runs smoothly. RE also spoke regarding the 200 Club and advised that a return should be supplied to SKDC at the end of each licensing period, (the license being renewed annually). This is for HMRC purposes. WG thanked RE and he then left.</p> <p>WG then went on to Item 2 on the Agenda, 'Correspondence'. It was at this point that MH requested to speak.</p> <p>MH advised that he wished to point out that what he had to say was his personal view only and nothing whatsoever to do with the Parish Council.</p> <p>MH went on to advise that he had received a very serious written complaint from a member of the public, against two members of Rippingale Village Hall Committee. He then distributed a copy of the complaint to each committee member for their perusal. The complainant accused WG and AF of bullying the village hall caretaker, Angela Keen. MH said that he felt the complaint was so serious that the committee should take action under the auspices of their disciplinary code and that WG and AF should be suspended pending a thorough investigation by an independent person. He also advised that the meeting should be closed forthwith.</p> <p>A heated and lengthy discussion took place.</p> <p>DH asked if Angela Keen had made a complaint. MH advised that Angela had not made a formal complaint.</p> <p>MH proposed a motion 'That this committee takes seriously any occurrence which reflects badly on the committee. The said complaint is serious and this committee urges that an independent investigation is undertaken. In the meantime the persons against whom the allegation is made should be suspended until the investigation is completed'.</p> <p>Further discussion took place. WG attempted to respond to the proposed motion. MH said it was not appropriate to discuss the complaint at a public meeting. CJ suggested that all parties should be spoken to. CG advised he was happy to bring an independent solicitor to the table at</p>	

	<p>his own personal expense. CJ advised that the allegations cannot be considered as fact at this time and she did not agree that anyone should be suspended. MH asked who would second this motion. No one agreed to do this.</p> <p>WG advised that the committee has concerns regarding the 200 Club and bookings.</p> <p>CJ suggested that AK, WG and AF should meet with an independent person to discuss the foregoing complaint and also the issues surrounding the bookings and the 200 Club. CG proposed that CJ be the 'independent person' to meet with AK, WG and AF. CJ said as this was the first time she had attended a meeting of the committee and as she does not know the individuals concerned, she would be happy to do this. MH advised he would find a second 'independent' person to attend the meeting, CG agreed with this. MH withdrew his proposal to suspend AF and WG. MH made an amendment to his original proposal. He then proposed, 'That this committee takes seriously any occurrence which reflects badly on the committee. The said complaint is serious and this committee urges that an independent investigation is undertaken. In the meantime the persons against whom the allegation is made and all committee members should not discuss this case with any persons involved.' CJ seconded the proposal.</p>	
3	The meeting closed at 8.30pm	