



BEMBRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

The Clerk to the Council,
5 Foreland Road, Bembridge, Isle of Wight, PO35 5XN
Tel: 01983 874160 **Email:** clerk@bembridgepc.org.uk



Horticulture and Other Users Consultation Session

Held on Tuesday 15th November 2016 in the Small Hall Village Hall

Present: Alan Morris (Chairman Community Hub Committee), Emma Goldring (Clerk), Cllr Sally Pigot, Cllr Richard Weaver and 18 village hall users (inc WI, TWG, RNLI, Holy Trinity, Ramshackle Cinema, Thursday market)

These notes represent the comments made by both the user groups and the members of the committee

It was acknowledged that mistakes were made with the first round of public consultations by putting out plans that were to intended show what may be possible rather than a finished product. Need to understand what the needs of the users are as we thought we knew but obviously do not.

Horticulture uses the big hall and kitchen for their regular monthly meetings (from September to April) and for 3 coffee mornings. They use the whole premises for their Shows in June and August each year. Have shed in the back on space rented from the Village Hall, the shed itself being the property of the Horticultural Society . It houses, tables, exhibition boards etc.

WI has monthly meetings and fundraisers twice per year requiring the hall and kitchen.

Thursday bazaar booked every week plus some Tuesdays and Saturday throughout the year. Kitchen is vital.

Ramshackle Cinema has invested in a 5.1 dolby system that has recently been installed within the small hall as the acoustics are good. The large hall acoustics are poor however it is used to host afternoon teas with Ryde Lyons. Capacity for cinema is 44.

TWG used to have 3 groups now has 1. Coffee morning twice per year and kitchen is essential.

RNLI main hall for coffee mornings and AGM. Congratulate the Committee for grasping this task and looking to secure the future.

Little Theatre Group have 2 productions per year and is required for the week leading up to performance.

Messages are common leave the kitchen, large hall and small hall as they are. Accept there could be a problem with the library. Heritage building is not fit for purpose. Both need to be protected.

Situation with funding is getting tighter. IWC in trouble financially. More services could be devolved to Parish Councils with no funding. Face an uncertain future. Looking ahead 10 years and it is right to be proactive.

Plans were shown as to what could be done but will almost certainly not happen.

CAIW or the library group has been offered a long term lease of the library building but it comes with full repairing liabilities. Library group are looking into this.

We don't have to do anything. Look at how we can use those buildings and preserve for the future.

Committee meeting on Thursday to make sense of the feedback and try to decide which way to go. Will feedback to the public. Nothing will happen for a year as 5-7 High St has to be sold looking at spring next year to go on the market. Grant funding getting scarce. Could go to a public appeal and raise the precept plus the capital from the sale to fund the costs. Central Government looking to cap the precept at 2% of £140,000 is £2800.

In the long run there may be an element of compromise and change. Try to ensure everybody is accommodated.

Some people mention going to the community centre. Village has 2 centres.

The Parish Council is unusual in that it has a lot of assets which could be seen as a liability.

Village Centre needs a car park. BT site is owned by Telereal Trillium and they are not interested in any offer or arrangement.

Promote business as usual for the village hall and user groups help by joining the committee. Constitution invites users to be on the management committee which some people didn't know.

VH roof could cost up to £100K.

Finding new volunteers is difficult as the younger generations are both working and incredible busy, don't tend to volunteer. Try to get a cross section of people onto your groups.

Horticulture tried to get the school involved need to know the names of the 2 mums running the gardening club.

Good community spirit in Bembridge.

Questionnaires should have gone to every household.

Will circulate the notes to the users.

Emma Goldring
15th November 2016