

WIDECOMBE COMMUNITY HALL CIO  
(Charity registration number 1182621)

Minutes of meeting No: 51 of the board of trustees  
of Widecombe Community Hall CIO held at Old Walls  
on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2025 at 7:30 pm.

PRESENT:	NAME	POSITION
	Yvette Elliott (YE)	Chair
	Polly McAfee (PM)	Vice Chair
	Sarah Reeve (SR)	Secretary
	Chris Elliott (CE)	Trustee
	Alan Peake (AP)	Trustee
	Iain Russel (IR)	Trustee
	Chris Mayhead (CM)	Trustee
	Russell Martin (RM)	New Trustee
	Gail Fursdon (GF)	Finance Administrator
IN ATTENDANCE:		
APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:	Lloyd Mortimore (LM)	Trustee
ABSENT WITHOUT APOLOGY:		

1. NOTICE AND QUORUM

- The chairman reported that sufficient notice of the meeting had been duly given and that a quorum was present. The chairman declared that the meeting was open.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- None

3. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

- The Minutes of the last meeting (24<sup>th</sup> March) were approved and signed.

4. TERMS OF OFFICE

- Alan Peake gave notice of resignation. He joined the committee in 2016 at its inception. As a retired Civil Engineer he has been on site making sure everything is being done properly with regard to technical aspects and surveying. He will still be involved with the project. There was a Vote of Thanks for everything he has done.
- Russell Martin – we welcomed as a new trustee. Russ lives locally with a young family. Saw a new hall being built in a village where he lived in Somerset and recognizes the value of this

to a community. He is a PE teacher in Plymouth and is part of the leadership team. He has experience in fundraising & grant applications. (AP) Proposed, (PM) second. Unanimously appointed for a 3-year term.

- Sarah Reeve – term of office due to end but is happy to stay on for another 3-year term. (YE) Proposed, (CM) second. Unanimously approved.

## 5. MATTERS ARISING

- **Plan drawings** of utilities cables – (AP) has done his bit and (CE) will do his soon.
- **Lay kerbs** in car park – (LM) not done yet. Kerbs were delivered to Northway. Will make site tidier and allow parking for events.
- **Plunkett Foundation** – (IR) to look into. We are registered with them. They fund community projects but not sure about large funding amounts.

## 6. SUB-COMMITTEE UPDATES & NEXT STEPS

### FUNDRAISING:

- **Events this year:**  
Duck Race – April raised £919.02  
Barn Dance – June raised £3,650.13  
Cake Stalls – Summer raised £1,560.43  
All events involved a lot of work, but were good community events, especially the Barn Dance. Cake Stalls also brought money in from outside the village. Generally more effort = more money raised. Didn't make as much as we could on the bar (Barn Dance) as there was too much choice and therefore wastage.
- People have asked for another Valentines Dinner, Dance & Auction. If the new owners of the Old Inn would be willing. (CM) to investigate. We could get some things donated for the Auction.
- **Sub-Committee update** – (YE) & (PM) have been submitting bids. NPG – we joined 18 months ago to help with applications & funders – didn't get off to a good start. No success as yet. One fund opened on 1st August for one month only, Teignbridge District Council via DEFRA – YE & PM went for max bid £75,000, and have been recommended for approval. Very keen on the project. Would be paid retrospectively and must be spent by next March. (AK) has been able to provide more info for the bid. We would have to show what we'd built & spent – Nudura structure and roof. Original estimate was £450k to get to watertight structure. Could get £50k loan from PC, but would accrue interest – (Public Works Loan Board).
- **Approached by a local family** who would like to make a donation – £10k as a match fund to encourage other people to donate. We would need to look for many more donations like this.
- **Other possible funders** – “Awards for All” £20k. ‘Garfield Western Foundation’ up to £30k. ‘Bernard Sorley Foundation’ – can re-apply now we are further forward. NPG to put together another tranche of draft applications. If hall could be used for an exercise space – can apply for grants from sports funders such as ‘Sport England’ and ‘Active Devon’ – Keen to encourage people of all ages to exercise esp. in rural areas. We've made access to tennis courts to link the facilities.  
(All) to investigate local donor opportunities.
- **Other ideas for money** – Original Feasibility study showed how the hall would make a profit each year. We had been informed that we would be a beneficiary in someone's will – could be used at a later stage to repay loans. Don't want to get into too much debt. Donations would be preferable to interest free loans. If we did this, there's no going back, however a

structure would probably attract more funds. TDC want to see the outcome of the grant – a watertight building by March 2026.

(AK) has a list of contractors to tender prices including Nudura specialists. Need final tenders & availability very soon. Project Manager? (IR) suggests this is very important. Has used someone but he only does large projects – (IR) will speak to him again. If we use local people, they must carry out the work exactly as specified under contract, with penalty clauses for failing to meet deadlines etc.

## DESIGN:

- **Site Tidy** – good volunteer session one Sunday morning recently. Another session would be good. Miles is working on a turf bank, waiting for damper conditions. Val Tame will help with some garden design for left corner by cattle grid, area won't be driven over again – she has friends who can help provide plants. Pile of topsoil available from another part of the field.
- **Pause** on the kerb laying for the moment.
- **Another session needed:** Need to have a fire to tidy up cleared stuff & tree Work. Next session 12<sup>th</sup> October, Sunday 9am – 1pm. (CE) to put out information on WhatsApp Volunteer Group.

## 6. FINANCIAL UPDATE (Finance Administrator: Gail Fursdon)

- Total in Bank (Current Account) available: – £8,008.46
- Instant Savings Account – (@1% Mar to Sept £81.45) £26,221.44
- Charity Bank (3.26% 40 day notice) £80,058.17
- United Trust Bank (5% base rate tracker, 120 day notice) £80,243.06
- **Total in Bank Accounts:** **£194,531.13**
- Petty Cash: £485.00
- **Total (inc Petty Cash):** **£195,016.13**
- PayPal: zero. Zettle: Zero
- Invoices:
  - a. Quick books and Gsuite regular payments.
  - b. Andrew Kirby Architects £4,320.00
- Fundraising events:
  - a. Supporting Wall stone engraving total to date £5,203
  - b. Duck Race £919.02; Barn Dance £3650.13; Cake stalls £1,565.43
- Funds:
  - a. Local Fundraising Target (50K) – £68,136 =136% of our target
  - b. Unrestricted funds available: £194,016.13
  - c. Restricted Funds: for future use £500 + £500 = £1,000 both from WPC
- Donations & Grants:
  - a. £10 – regular direct debit
  - b. Widecombe Fair £500
  - c. Moorland Merrymakers £500
  - d. Debbie Silver £30 in lieu of her speaker fee

- April, May, June, July, August & September '25 bank statement were presented and confirmed then signed by officers.
- Interest for the year and new interest rate applicable now:

a. Lloyds Savings Account	£261.12	new rate 0.60% 20-09-25
b. Charity Bank	£2,400.36	new rate 3.06% 30-06-25
c. United Trust Bank	£3,967.38	new rate 4% 07-08-25
d. <b>Total for Year</b>	<b>£6,628.86</b>	
- Our Lloyds Bank a/c is to change to a Charity Account on 13-11-25 – the terms and conditions are changing.

7. A.O.B.

- None

8. D.O.N.M

- Wait for more information regarding Grants, Donations and Quotes.

9. CLOSE: There was no further business and therefore the chair declared that the meeting was closed. 9.18pm.

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Chairman

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Date

N.B. **Highlighted Items** = Tasks to be done.