

BECKINGTON MEMORIAL HALL COMMITTEE

Minutes

12th January 2026 at 7pm in the Clifford Suite

1. **Present and in Attendance.**

Suzanne Chillman (chair), Sara Coffield (secretary), Sandy Usher, David Norman (treasurer), Stan Wilson, Roz Serle, Lu Hughes, David Costello

2. **Apologies**

Helena Turner, Laura Parry

3. **Minutes from December meeting.**

The management committee unanimously accepted the minutes

The working committee unanimously accepted the minutes

4. **Matters Arising**

Door Codes

DN has now typed up the procedure for changing the door codes and will circulate it by email. Volunteers to do this monthly before the meeting are needed.

Maintenance

SW updated that PAT-testing is due in February and queried the location of the rogue toaster and kettle.

SCh informed him that they are behind the stage.

Gas Cannister

RS has emailed Kegway and they've agreed to dispose of the cannister. They will contact her soon.

Network advert

ACTION: LP still to design advert

Dishwasher

SCh has typed up some new instructions. The cleaner has accepted the job of adding the salt to the dishwasher. DC offered to buy the salt.

ACTIONS: DC to buy salt; SC to contact cleaner

Storage

SCh has deduced that we need a clear out before thinking about storage. Tip-run needed.

ACTION: SCh to contact FWCC

Curtains SCh / LH

The curtains in the main hall now don't meet over the new heaters so LH and SCh have organised new blinds for this gap and the lady who made them has not charged for making them.

Curtain Poles SCh / LH

The curtain poles are pulling out of the wall because the curtains are so heavy. Something needs to be done soon.

5. **Financial report DN**

We are down to £16k in the bank at the moment. Ideally we should stay at £20K+

Somerset council have advised us of a rate rebate – approx. £1000

£528 donation from Carols Around the Tree

£500 donation from a member of the community

200 Club Draw.

6. Alcohol requests

7. Maintenance

HT will be dropping the December maintenance check into SCh.

JH offered to do the next maintenance check

Fence & dog poo bin (crash)

Someone crashed into the fence during the icy weather recently. Driver very apologetic and willing to pay. SCh has asked the PC for cost of a new dog poo bin. T Deacon Landscaping have offered to repair at cost.

ACTION: SCh to follow up with T Deacon

8. Insurance re: winter checklist

SCh circulated “protecting your village hall” ideas from our insurers.

The gutters are blocked again. DC offered to look at them.

The soak-away is not working very well when it rains hard. SCh suggested finding a maintenance man to sort them. SCh also suggested organising a grit bin near the hall – the PC are in charge of this

ACTIONS: DC to look at the gutters; SCh to talk to CW (PC) about grit bin and dog bin

9. Events

10. Facebook/ Network. JH

200 Club

Carols Around the Tree

Donation

Heaters – cost £11,000

11. AOB.

Take Away Van

A take-away van was hoping to park at the hall monthly to sell take away food but they need power so they'd need to hire the main hall.

ACTION: SC to follow up

Decorating Party!

LH suggested making good of hall decor needs to be carried out before end of February. RS was keen to book a date but nothing suited immediately. JH suggested we advertise for help first and then book a date.

ACTION: JH to add to Network / Facebook

Tower Hill Planning SCh

Comments have been extended for a week so SCh invited comments from the committee. The committee agreed to various concerns, especially the dangerous corner.

ACTION: SCh to compile comments

Parish Council

SCh had meeting with Simon Milner, new parish councillor. He is very keen to move on and reset the relationship. He'd like to come to one of our meetings. He'd also like to meet SW to talk about the lease agreement. SC suggested reaching out to see if they wanted to add anything to our agendas, and hopefully come along to represent the PC.

ACTIONS: SCh to connect SW with SM; SC to reach out to the PC and invite to meetings

Book Exchange

SCh advised RS that the latest PC minutes report that they would like more info.

Cable in the Clifford Suite (corner)

DC queried a cable that hangs in the corner of the CS. Apparently it belongs to The Players and connects to a camera in the main hall to see the main stage

ACTION: DC to contact panto about tying it up and making it safe

Grants

ACTION: LH and SU to follow up with grant applications

12. Next meeting

9th February