

Minutes from the meeting held on 18 October 2022

Present

Simon Wisdom, Steve Thorpe, Paul Howells, Laura Cross, Chris Waine, John Holton, Claire Thorpe, Nicola Wisdom, Jake Fisher, and Martin Bentley

Apologies:, Steve Thornton, Alan Moore

1. Matters Arising from Previous Meeting

All covered under agenda items this month.

2. Finance

In September the Centre made a profit of £4,767. Business remains strong with a significant increase in sales volume. As a result of our financial performance and to support customers in these inflationary times the price of soft drinks has been reduced and the brewery price increases in October will be absorbed.

Expenditure is under control with wages in line with expectations. At the moment the cost of utilities is at a reasonable level but this maybe a result of the warmer weather.

Centre usage by user groups and events is high for the remainder of 2022.

YTD the accounts are showing a profit of £24,991 and cash in the bank is strong. The actions taken recently; wage increase, brewery price increase absorption and reduction in the price of soft drinks will show in October. The monthly impact is anticipated to be £1,100.

3. Operations

1. The increase in bar staff wages has been progressed, We hope this will help recruit more staff.
2. Staff uniform is progressing
3. The price of soft drinks has been reduced
4. New wine glasses have been purchased. Gin glasses will be replenished
5. Changing bank is not so simple as everything has to be done on-line with no opportunity to discuss. A choice will be made and the action progressed.
6. New composite benches have been identified and will be ordered. Initially one of each type for evaluation.
7. A staff Xmas party in December was agreed, to say thank you to the Centre staff
8. Opportunities to help villagers are being considered. These include low cost events, food banks and meals for children over the holiday periods

4. Projects

1. Bar redesign

A major reshaping of the bar has been roughly scoped, the cost would be in excess of £100K. Due to the time and effort required it was decided to keep this option on a slow burner and to progress some smaller improvement projects.

Ideas to improve the bar area include: redecoration, new sofas, removal of the fireplace and replacement of the floor covering. It was agreed to get a designer to provide ideas for the redecoration and then to progress the redesign in stages.

2. Ideas for new projects

Proposed projects include:

- Extending the patio area - this will be progressed as a Spring project
- New benches - ongoing for completion Q1 2023
- Heat saving measures such as solar panels (PH) or a heat pump (JF) - both of these will be investigated for viability

3. Till System

It was agreed to replace the old till system, which is out of date, with a new system from Fidelity at a cost of £3,500. Staying with Fidelity was recommended because it fits with the existing infrastructure and the staff know it. A number of PDQ machines at £45 will also be purchased. Equipment for use in an outside bar area is being costed and will be purchased bringing the total expenditure to ca £5,000.

5. Health & Safety

There were no accidents reported.

6. Any Other Business

MPC works

This is ongoing and is in the hands of the MPC.

MPC - MVA lease

A new lease contract between the MPC and the MVA is ongoing. As part of this contract the responsibility of any project CDM regulations will be transferred to the MVA. The agreement between the MVA and TCAM will be revised to transfer this responsibility to TCAM.

7. Date of the Next Meeting

Proposed date for the next meeting is Tuesday 22 November