

NOTES FOR APM MAY 7 2022

GOOD MORNING

I'M CHAIR OF HILCOTT VILLAGE HALL TRUST

A SMALL BUILDING HAS STOOD ON THE SITE IN THE CENTRE OF THE VILLAGE OF HILCOTT IN NORTH NEWNTON PARISH SINCE AROUND 1910. THE PLOT OF LAND PREVIOUSLY THE VILLAGE BAKERY WAS GIFTED BY LORD NORMANTON TO THE COMMUNITY OF NORTH NEWNTON PARISH.

WE ARE GOVERNED BY A TRUST DEED OF 1969 AND A FURTHER ONE OF 1982 WHICH IS LODGED WITH THE CHARITY COMMISSION

A REVISED ONE OF 2019 WAS SIGNED WITH TWO NEW TRUSTEES MALCOLM BAKER AND MYSELF WITH MADELINE WILKS AS A LONG SERVING TRUSTEE FROM 1998, TWO PREVIOUS TRUSTEES SADLY HAVING PASSED ON.

A FURTHER DEED DATED SEPTEMBER 2021 ADDED A GIFT OF LAND TO THE WEST OF CASSOCKS WHICH WE HAVE NAMED BARNARD MEADOW. THIS DEED STATES THAT THE PROPERTY CANNOT BE USED OTHER THAN FOR A SMALL CAR PARK, AGRICULTURE OR COMMUNITY GARDEN LAND. ALSO THERE CAN BE NO DWELLING, BUILDING OR OTHER STRUCTURE WHETHER PERMANENT, TEMPORARY OR MOBILE ERECTED ON THE LAND. (WE ARE ALLOWED A BARBECUE!) AND WOULD LIKE TO HAVE A COUPLE OF BENCHES IN THE COMMUNITY SPACE.

AS THE LAST APM WAS ONLY 7 MONTHS AGO, I SHALL JUST UPDATE YOU ON WHAT HAS BEING GOING ON SINCE THEN....

THE HALL WAS DEMOLISHED IN SEPTEMBER LAST. WE HOPE THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL AND PARISHIONERS WILL SUPPORT US FOR THE FUTURE WITH A NEW BUILD. WE OF COURSE HAVE GENERATED NO INCOME SINCE THE HALL WAS CLOSED IN NOVEMBER 2019 (APART FROM QUIZ NIGHT TAKINGS LAST YEAR), BUT WE HAVE HAD EXPENSES. SOME VERY GENEROUS FRIENDS OF THE HALL HAVE DONATED TOWARDS THE NEW BUILD AND DEMOLITION COSTS AND GAVE THEIR TIME TO CLEAR THE HALL AND TO KEEP THE OUTSIDE LOOKING REASONABLE.

SINCE BARNARD MEADOW WAS ACQUIRED, AND DURING MARCH AND APRIL, THERE HAS BEEN MUCH WORK ON CLEARING THE LAND AND UNCOVERING AN OLD NUCLEAR BUNKER/SHELTER. OUR GENEROUS BENEFACTOR WILL BE VISITING US SOON TO UNLOCK IT (AFTER 20 YEARS) AND OF COURSE WE ARE ALL INTERESTED IN SEEING WHAT IS INSIDE!

THANK YOU TO ALLTHE VOLUNTEERS TOO NUMEROUS TO MENTION WHO HAVE BEEN CHEERFULLY WORKING THROUGH THE BRAMBLES AND RUBBISH, A GREAT COMMUNITY SPIRIT PREVAILS.

I HAVE A FOLDER HERE WITH PHOTOS OF THE LAND BEFORE AND AFTER AND IN PROGRESS (SOME ARE DRONE PICTURES WHICH SHOW THE EXTENT OF THE LAND). PLEASE COME AND HAVE A LOOK AFTER THE MEETING IF YOU WISH.

GRANTS – IN APRIL THIS YEAR WE HAD A GRANT FROM PEWSEY AREA BOARD IN THE AMOUNT OF £900 FOR THE FELLING AND DISPOSAL OF AN OLD CONIFER TREE ON BARNARD MEADOW. THANKS TO AB.

COVID-19 HAS IMPACTED ON FUNDRAISING FOR THE HALL OVER THE LAST TWO YEARS AS HAS THE CURRENT ECONOMIC CLIMATE.

THINGS ARE STARTING TO PICK UP NOW, HOWEVER, AND WE ARE PURSUING GRANTS FROM THE NATIONAL LOTTERY AND OTHERS. WE HAVE SECURED A GRANT FROM COMMUNITY FIRST/HILLS OF £10000 FOR AUDIO VISUAL EQUIPMENT WHICH WE WILL MATCH FUND. OTHER AVENUES ARE JUSTGIVING AND AMAZONSMILE, THE EVER POPULAR QUIZ NIGHTS AND SOME NEW IDEAS.

WE HAVE TAKEN INTO CONSIDERATION THE PROPOSED USAGE OF THE HALL AND ACTIVITIES FOR OUR BUSINESS PLAN.

EXCITING NEWS – DUE TO AMY’S HARD WORK ON A WEBSITE, WE ARE ALMOST READY TO LAUNCH IT – SO WATCH THIS SPACE. A HIGHLY RESPECTED COMPUTER ASSOCIATE HAS CALLED THE DESIGN “CLEAN AND MODERN”

OVER THE YEARS, THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF St JAMES, THE PARISH COUNCIL AND THE VILLAGE HALL TRUST HAVE ALL HELPED AND SUPPORTED EACH OTHER WITH COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES AND LONG MAY IT CONTINUE.

FINALLY, I WOULD LIKE TO THANK MY FELLOW TRUSTEES AND COMMITTEE, MADELINE, MALCOLM, PAULA, ADRIAN, AMY AND MAC AND FRIENDS AND SUPPORTERS OF THE HALL, FOR THEIR COMMITMENT,

**AND LAST BUT NOT LEAST PATRICK OUR PROJECT
MANAGER AND ARCHITECT WHO HAS UNFAILINGLY
AND PATIENTLY GUIDED US WITH HIS PROFESSIONAL
EXPERTISE AND HAS DONATED HIS TIME IN KIND SINCE
JANUARY 2021 THANKS PATRICK.**

THANK YOU

CAROLYN 7/05/2022