



Westleton Village Hall Committee
Reg. Charity Number 1026353



Public Consultation Meeting
27 February 2008

Meeting Notes

Present - *Committee Members* Morgan Caines, Antony Clough, Brian Boulanger, John Bebbington, Gordon Turner, Alison Paul, Frances Berry, Sheila Collett, Gwen Saunders.
20 Westleton citizens were also present.

Apologies - *Committee Members* Judy Boulanger, Mim Hendricks, Irene Ridley, Amanda Freeman.

The meeting plan and the notes available at the meeting are displayed on the notice board inside the main hall. If you were unable to attend the meeting please look at the proposals and pass any comments to John Bebbington 648943 <mailto:john@bebbington2.orangehome.co.uk>.

The form of the meeting was as planned. The following comments and suggestions were made during the discussion or were recorded on the Attendance and Approval Forms:-

Users will need more access to the heating controls than we suggest. They may need a master on/off switch and some users will need to adjust the temperature given the different needs of some groups. *Discuss master switch with electricians, consider making controllers available to users.*

Many present argued strongly that secondary glazing is not acceptable and that we should not accept the advice from "planning" that double glazed windows would not be permitted in a grade 2 listed building in a conservation area. It will be unsightly and difficult to use and clean and, possibly not very effective. Opening the windows for ventilation may also be difficult. One person found secondary glazing acceptable, but majority opinion was opposed. *Discuss with Suffolk Coastal planning and encourage them to visit site. Raise with district councillor.*

Suggested that replacement windows could be cheaper softwood rather than hardwood. *Raise when we discuss with "planning".*

Suggested that we approach local authority heating and insulation specialists or the energy officer to explore and strengthen the case for double glazing. *Advice requested on appropriate people to contact.*

Suggested that we fit a light tunnel or light dome in roof over accessible lavatory. *Consider this when we look at insulating and renewing the felt on this roof when this project is completed. There will be an automatic light in this lavatory.*

Possible risk of condensation problem in sealed unventilated room, *If keep heating at a constant low level this should be OK Consider condensers and/or absorbent gels if necessary.*

Question about heating in the kitchen *There is a heater and we have no plans to change this.*

Concern that some people using accessible lavatory will need lavatory bowls at different height. Hygiene problem envisaged if we have a seat riser available. *This question was raised with reference to people who did not use a wheelchair but who needed a higher lavatory seat. The following is a extract from para 5.9 of Building Regulations document M1/M3 Section 5 Sanitary accommodation in buildings other than dwellings.*

“Some wheelchair users find it difficult to use a standard height WC seat and, for them, it is important that the WC pan can accept a variable height toilet seat riser. WC pans manufactured to the key dimensions given in BS 5503-3 and BS 5504-4 are considered acceptable.”

So it looks as though we are supposed to have a seat riser available anyway and the hygiene problem is one we will have to think through.

Concern about weight restriction on ceiling panels. *Insulation pads are lightweight and designed to fit on ceiling panes. We will not have to stand on panels when fitting them.*

Two concerns about bat colony thought to be in roof. We do not want to disturb them, and improved insulation may reduce the roof temperature too much. *There is an inner ceiling above the suspended ceiling and we believe the bats are above that. We do not see how fitting these pads on top of the ceiling panels can affect any bats but we accept we need a bit of advice. We have been in touch with Suffolk Wildlife Trust but they have not responded. Try again.*

Conclusions

At the end of the meeting people were asked to indicate their general support of these projects by a show of hands. All present supported these projects in principle, none were opposed.

Votes recorded on the Attendance and Approval form;

	Accessible Lavatory	Heating and Insulation
Approve	14	13
Disapprove	0	1

Summary

Village Hall Committee to reconsider installation of secondary glazing, seek further advice and argue the case for double glazing the windows with the planning and listed building officers and Suffolk Coastal.

Proceed with rest of heating and insulation projects as described.

Proceed with accessible lavatory project as described.

*John Bebbington
28/02/2008*