

Proposal for a Management Committee to take Responsibility for the Pavilion.

This is a proposal to make the day-to-day running of the Pavilion the responsibility of a management committee.

The Pavilion is not only our greatest asset but also our greatest financial risk. This risk becomes evident when you look at last year's total income from bookings against the annual running cost of the building. The total income from bookings amounted £29,000.00, against an annual running cost of £40,000.00. The fund raising helped offset some of this loss though we still made a loss of £1,000.00. Expectations that income from Pavilion bookings together with fundraising will fund this year's Budget of £62,000.00, is unrealistic.

The management committee would effectively be managing trustees with the Council continuing as the holding trustee. Members of the committee would need to formally agree to be bound by the Council Code of Conduct and meetings would need to follow Council Standing Orders. Managing trustees usually operate autonomously from the holding trustee(s), however in this case, it will mean taking on the responsibility for the day-to-day management of the Pavilion and its allocated Budget.

The management of the Memorial Ground Charity, including the Memorial Ground and all its associated assets and liabilities, would remain part of the Council's responsibility and will be an element of the Council's Budget. These elements will be dealt with by the Parish Council as Corporate Trustee at its meetings.

If adopted by the Parish Council as Holding Trustee, the following actions will need to be carried out as well as others that will come to light as the process continues:

1. Set up the management committee with its Terms of Reference, Code of Conduct and Standing Orders.
2. Seek advice from the Community Council for Somerset (as ACRE representatives in Somerset) on the proposal
3. Advertise locally for interested parishioners to become involved as committee members.

This will take time, but it is reasonable to expect to have the committee in place early in the New Year and for it to be fully functional by the start of the next financial year in April 2026.

This proposal is not a cost cutting exercise, but one to manage the risk of this asset which has the greatest potential to be self funding. It also puts management of this community asset much more in the hands of the community it serves. The Council will not be distracted from its much wider responsibilities to the community due to having to manage the Pavilion. However, that administration will still need to be covered and it is not foreseen that this will affect staffing requirements.

This is a restructuring proposal. It should result in a more proactive and agile management of the Pavilion leading to greater and more efficient use of the building in keeping with the objects of the Charity and the expectations of funders.