**Minutes of the Communications Committee 7th January 2025 held at the Civic Hall, Uppermill.**

**Present:** Cllrs S. Al-Hamdani (Chairman), H. Bishop, A. Marland, M. Powell.

**442. Apologies for absence:** CllrL. Dawson.

Absent: Cllr M. Birchall.

**443. Declarations of interest** None were declared

**444. To approve the minutes of the meeting held Thursday 28th October 2024**

Agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman at the meeting. Proposed Cllr Al-Hamdani, seconded Cllr Marland.

**445. Civic Hall Promotion**

Cllr Al-Hamdani explained there are three separate advertisements in the Saddleworth Monthly magazine, one promotes the Parish Councils’ work in the area, one promotes the Civic Hall as a venue and the other promotes it purely as a wedding venue. The Clerk confirmed there had been no take up on the recent advert in UK Bride and there was discussion around how the hall can be improved to make it more attractive to potential hirers.

It was agreed Cllr Al-Hamdani would set up a Facebook/Instagram promotion, approx. cost £100. Proposed Cllr Al-Hamdani, seconded Cllr Marland, carried.

After further discussion it was agreed Councillors would bring additional proposals for marketing ideas to the next meeting.

It was agreed the Clerk would approach previous wedding hirers asking for testimonials and feedback from their recent events.

A dedicated events website was discussed and the Clerk confirmed there was £750 unspent in the current budget for emerging priorities.

It was agreed the Clerk would contact our website provider regarding the costs of setting up a dedicated website and what will be required to get it up and running and bring this information to the next meeting.

**446. Merchandise for Future Fundraising**

Ideas for merchandise were discussed, and how they could be promoted.

Cllr Al-Hamdani advised he is working on “That Bleak Ridge” the birth of women’s rights which was initiated in Saddleworth. He also continues to work on photographing and compiling iconic views and all listed building and monuments listed by Historic England.

After further discussion it was agreed that each councillor would look into the following and bring the information to the next meeting:

Fridge Magnets – Cllr Bishop

Calendars, tea towels & mugs – Cllr Marland

Keyrings – Cllr Powell

Ceramic badges – the Clerk

**447. Separate website for Events**

This was discussed under agenda item 446.

**448. Items for the next agenda**

Dedicated Website Update

Civic Hall Promotion

Fundraising Merchandise

-Designs and Pricing

**Date of next meeting: Thursday 13th March 2025 8pm (following Finance).**