

Report for Brightling Parish Council Meeting

8th January 2025

Trees

While not directly addressed under this topic, the issue of deer management was briefly mentioned. Following this discussion, a link to the British Deer Society's guidance on deer management was circulated. For further information, the resource can be accessed at:

<https://bds.org.uk/information-advice/issues-with-deer/why-manage-deer/>

Brightling Village Hall

Roof Replacement Proposal

The replacement of the Brightling Village Hall roof was discussed during the December 2024 committee meeting, with Trustees in attendance. The meeting identified the need for further exploration of all associated costs before proceeding. As part of this effort, additional quotes for the roofing work are being sought.

A structural survey of the Hall was completed, and the structural calculations indicated that strengthening of the roof beams is required. This recommendation is not attributed to the weight of the proposed new roofing material but rather to the displacement of some existing beams. The structural analysis also incorporated the potential addition of solar panels to the new roof.

Solar Panel Proposal

A proposal to install solar panels on the new roof was also discussed. Cllr. Andrew Wedmore offered to conduct further financial analysis, including Discounted Cash Flow projections, to assess the long-term financial performance of such an installation. However, it was noted that detailed electricity consumption figures for 2023-2024 are unavailable from the current electricity provider. To address this gap, an electricity consumption monitor has now been installed.

Despite these efforts, it was evident during the meeting that the solar panel proposal does not have sufficient support at this time.

Planning Application

A planning application for the roof replacement was submitted in December 2024.

Energy Contracts

Electricity and LPG contracts for the Hall remain under continuous review. It was noted that the electricity contract is nearing its conclusion, and the current supplier is no longer competitive.

Alternative options are being explored to ensure cost-effectiveness moving forward.