

OUTSIDE SPACES

THE GAZEBO Windbreaks on the gazebo all three groups Roller windbreaks – need to be full. No half walls Always windy and can't use it in wind Baskets with blankets Keep gazebo open and not fully enclosed With patio heaters could be used for winter events	x3 groups
BOULES area properly laid Boules discussed esp. maintenance by volunteers, rake, investment	x 2 groups
THE TRIANGLE Meadow Area Wildlife Trust may sponsor/share resources for the 'Triangle' Meadow area Link with school to share meadow area with children Mow a pathway through long grass	
STORAGE outside – mobile unit for children's sporting equipment x all groups Storage outside for outside equipment = ladders, mowers etc a permanent structure Storage could be achieved through Layton Storage needs to be flexible/accessible	x 3 groups
TOILETS How do we share toilets across different events Toilets outside x 2 groups. Felt this was very important for users who are not in the hall Outside loo could be by foyer	x 2 groups
TENNIS COURTS multi-surface and multi-sports The tennis courts should be free for the village but paid by other users – booking system needed This should be a priority Get tennis courts sorted first – encourage tennis coach to be involved Fencing	
OTHER No adult exercise equipment – too expensive By Children's area 3 extra picnic tables but on paving slabs for the mower Clarify whether others can use bowling area especially children's club possible?	

TREV'S BAR	
DÉCOR Looks busy, cluttered, gets crowded Bit of a mess Pictures interesting – show character – visitors like it – Does look busy Less cluttered, be cleaner, cleaner comes in Décor looks cluttered, messy, unhygienic? pictures could be interpreted as 'blokey' Cluttered feel and can be unwelcoming Blokey Is it attractive/ assessible to children? Hall has no character so bar has developed and visitors like pictures Need greater comfort/user friendly Lighting needs improving Chairs need improving	
X2 anomaly systems for music – needs resolving If main hall is more comfortable bar is less of a separate entity The bar should simply serve the hall 2 sound systems need just one	

Acoustics are 'dire'	
HATCH + MEETING ROOM Serving hatch – open and closed give versatility Could hatch be opened – versatility is an important aim Serve into the meeting room No hatch – to meeting room some women use the space You can put the nature of the bar down to the history of volunteering Rethink layout – spread into meeting room Carpet in meeting room Undefined décor Decorate the meeting room and bar the same = snug Remove doors? Heating put it on a timer control Banquettes in meeting room Simplify the decoration Meeting room not used? Sink? Hot water? Urn – what is the point of the sink? Uniform the décor Query the range of drinks offered – too many. Original idea of bar to serve functions now serves more? Create snug softer seating atmosphere in meeting room Greater comfort – chairs need improving	
What is Trev's bar? Decide what kind of bar you want – then style it	
WELCOMING Bar stools are a problem - option to create breakfast bar arrangements? Some women feel uncomfortable approaching bar Remove bar stools – encourage people to sit elsewhere High stools get in the way /barrier Remove the stools Address (4/14) Gender of bar staff - pictures are 'blokey'	
Range of users? What is the idea of bar? – function – grew from occasional bar to wider stocking Good range of drinks £20k turn over = £8k profit	
EVENTS Encourage more people in How? New people good – Occasional live music Need more themed events more positive – eg Cuban night, quiz night, cocktail night, Apres ski night	
How does it link to main hall? Improving the hall could improve the bar	

The Meeting Room – summary of discussions in ACVH, Thursday, 23rd April 2026

Aim: to make an inclusive, but distinct space.

The name

One comment that the phrase 'meeting room' is utilitarian and exclusive summed up the challenge of the space in general: What is it used for, by whom, and how can it be made more inviting and accessible? There was general consensus that the name should be changed. Suggestions included: The Snug; The Conservatory; The Orange Room; The Western Room (referring both to its orientation and to the funders, the Westons). We need to ascertain what the terms of the funding are with regard to the name.

The purpose and how it is used

It is used for meetings, but only occasionally, and the question was raised whether it was in fact suitable as a meeting space. The Trustees usually have their meeting in the main hall.

It is used regularly on Sundays by a group mainly of women who want a 'good place to go and have a chat'.

It is a useful space for a quiet, intimate conversation away from the main hall, for example when there is a large event such as a birthday party or funeral.

It is also useful as a separate area for a function eg providing a buffet area for a party.

In the summer, with the doors open to the outside, it is well used by families.

Its relationship with the bar

A few participants thought it should be kept as a separate, more private, space, others (a majority) felt it should be more integrated with the bar and more open to movement from the bar area and from outside.

There was general consensus that it could be more welcoming and enticing. At the moment it is:

- A separate adjunct, which is accessed through the bar (except in summer, when the doors are open). This often means having to make one's way past a group of people ('a clutch of men') dominating the bar area.
- Too cold, not helped by hard surfaces such as the floor.
- Lacking design and cohesion in décor: the furnishings are not bespoke but a bit random, and there is no continuity from the bar.

The group using it on Sundays do find it a cosy place with comfortable chairs and would be happy for it to stay as it is, with a few more soft furnishings.

The ambiance

General agreement that the ambiance should be cosy and comfortable. Suggestions to make it so are:

- Different colour paint, perhaps continuing from the bar
- Different lighting
- A carpet on the floor
- Other soft furnishings
- Put the heating on a timer – could this be linked to the solar panels?
- Comfortable, L-shaped seating such as banquettes, that make the most of the space
- Low tables, but possibly also one high table to accommodate the tall stools.

There was some discussion of artwork and whether it would be possible to have revolving displays or villagers' artwork, and also photographs, old and recent. An alternative suggestion was to be more neutral, with scenes of nature such as forests, streams, fields.

The general view was that some investment should be put into the decoration and furnishing, taking into account how it fits into the Village Hall as a whole, and the positive impact careful consideration and planning could have on aspects such as acoustics (see Sound clouds below). Wendy Griffiths had some pictures of furnishings that could be suitable. Ishbel Yellowley has the name of a decorator who could advise.

Key issues

The Main Hall

Point made by one of the participants: 'The Main Hall is one of the main problems – get that right and you'll get everything right.'

This would relieve pressure of people clustered around the bar, allowing for freer movement from the bar to the Meeting Room and from the Main Hall through the bar area.

Redecoration and refurnishing of the Meeting Room needs to be part of a whole project, including the bar and the Main Hall. The feeling was expressed that the present decoration needed at least to be refreshed and updated.

Sound clouds

The acoustics in the Meeting Room are poor and the sound clouds have improved these. It is not clear, though, whether the ones on the walls are necessary, or left overs that were used for decoration. A number of people suggested these should be removed, to allow more flexibility with regard to decoration and furnishing eg having a picture rail, but we would need to establish what the impact on the acoustics would be. Bringing in more soft furnishings and carpeting the room could also help with acoustics and make the sound clouds on the walls unnecessary.

ACTION:

Establish whether the sound clouds on the wall are part of the original design and necessary for the acoustics.

Explore the effect of removing them.

Establish whether they can be used to display artwork (as is currently being done).

Trial different soft furnishings and carpeting for the effect on the acoustics.

Serving hatch

There were mixed views about the window from the bar into the Meeting Room.

A number of people would like it to be used as a serving hatch to provide access to the bar from the Meeting Room, and to relieve the problem of people having to approach the bar through a group of people (difficult for newcomers, people coming to the bar on their own, and for women). Different suggestions for this were made, such as a sliding window, or a shutter that could be raised.

Another view was that it would be a challenge to the bartender to manage two serving places. That the hatch is above the sink in the bar would also make it difficult to serve drinks through it.

ACTION:

Investigate different options for using the window as a serving hatch.

Link this to possible configuration of the bar.

Establish Health and Safety regulations related to this.

The doors

Outside doors: These are open when the weather is good in the summer. It is a friendlier, more accessible, route into the bar and the Main Hall. Questions for consideration: Could the doors be unlocked at the start of every bar session, so people could come in that way? Could we shift the main access to the bar through these doors?

Inside doors next to the bar: These are seen as a barrier, discouraging people from moving into the Meeting Room. Could they be changed eg for bifold doors that can be opened without impacting on the space in the bar area or the Meeting Room, or could they indeed be removed entirely, as was suggested passionately by one participant?

ACTION:

Establish Health and Safety regulations related to the inside doors.

Explore desirability and possible options for structural changes to access to the VH during bar times.

Explore desirability and possible options for structural changes to doors between the Meeting Room and the bar area.

