

## **Cornforth Community Centre Management Committee Meeting 20th October 2004**

**Present:** Mr T Dodds (in the chair), Mrs C Clinton, Mr B Clinton, Mr A Denholm, Mrs H P Drew, Mrs G Dodds, Mrs C Liddle, Mrs E Maddison, Mr A Mould, Mrs A Robinson, Mrs D Stephenson, Mrs J Stephenson, Mr T Stephenson, Mrs S Traynor, Ms C Warbis and Mrs M Wilson.

**Apologies:** Mrs M Craggs, Mr A Stubbs, Mrs V Weir, Mrs R Richardson, Mrs J Sweeting,

The meeting was opened at 6.30pm by Mrs D Stephenson.

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed.

### **Matters arising**

The deposit for the pantomime had been paid for by the Parish Council. The pantomime was further discussed later in the meeting. The Parish Council did not grant the money for replacement outer doors as events had moved on, again the reasons for this were discussed later in the meeting.

Mrs Drew and Mrs J Stephenson had attended the DAYCO (Durham Association of Youth and Community Organisations) meeting and reported it had been very interesting. As a result Mrs Stephenson had written to CISWU, an organisation which may have a copy of the deeds of the Centre.

The first Mobile Movie had been Shrek 2. 42 people had attended and enjoyed themselves. The Centre had received a cheque for £60 and £28 had been taken by the tuck shop and popcorn. The Committee thanked Mrs Traynor for providing the popcorn which had gone down very well. Mr Dodds noted that the Hall was well tidied afterwards and when he was in Cornforth House he had thanked Karen.

The Citizen's Advice Bureau had installed the door buzzer as promised and now a buzzer sounded in the lounge when the front door was opened. (The Committee had proof twice in the meeting.)

Mr Dodds asked for tombola prizes for the Christmas Fair. The Carol Concert was confirmed as being on 15th December. The December Committee meeting would be immediately before it.

The spare window panes had all now been treated with the special film and are ready to replace the damaged window. Mr Dodds had managed to fix the problem in the gents toilets.

### **Correspondence**

The latest issue of Infopeek was received. It had a piece on Ex-Miner's Welfare Halls and a name and contact details to contact about the responsibilities of Borough/District Councils v Management Committees. Mrs J Stephenson would follow it up.

Publications were received from DAYCO and CAVOS.

A pack dealing with new licensing law was received from the Borough Council which while not relevant at present but would be should we get a Bar in the future

Mr Dodds welcomed Mr A Denholm to the Committee and apologised for leaving it so late in the meeting.

A letter had been received from Cornforth Partnership asking that four member of the Partnership could join the Committee to give a young person's perspective. The Committee was very pleased to agree. The new members will be Ricky Bellingham, Anne Curry, Catherine Evans and Tony Cutmore.

## **Other business**

Mr Dodds had attended a meeting at Cornforth House where the plans for building improvements to the Centre were review. There had be a radical rethink as a result of the news from Sedgefield Borough

Mr Denholm explained the background to the reason the Parish Council had decided not to give the Committee money for new doors. Sedgefield Borough is selling some of its land and expected to get some £12 million. If, as a result of the referendum, a North East Assembly was set up the Borough would be taken over by the county or merged with other district councils. The Borough councillors wanted the proceeds of the sale to go to people in the Borough not outside so they were looking for projects to spend the money. The Parish Council thought that the Community Centre would be a good project. There is a time factor involved; if the money is not spent by April 2005 the Government will take 10%. The money would be on a first-come first-served basis and we would have to move quickly. Mr Denholm thought that the Parish Council would pay for proper architect's plans to be drawn up and the members of the Committee who were also on the Parish Council agreed. The building improvements would not be phased but done in one fell swoop.

The major differences between the new proposals and the old were that there would be no upstairs and the walls between the Lounge, the Kitchen, the Pool Room and the Snooker Room would be removed, creating another large area in addition to the Hall. This new area would have removable partitions to give a lot of flexibility of room combinations. The loss of the Kitchen would be offset by a Hospitality/Bar Area built down the outside of the Hall, as on previous plans. The Hospitality area would have an external door. There would be additional parking behind the Centre. The Committee endorsed the plans and welcomed the chance to exploit the windfall.

The Committee returned to the Pantomime. Mrs Trayor and Mr Denholm explained that the stage could not be used as audience participation was a big part of the production. A section of floor in front of the stage would be needed with the rest of the Hall free for seating. Mr Dodds thought we could get 120 seats in if we needed them (our fire licence allows 150 people in the Hall). Mr Denholm explained that the price had gone up to £430+VAT and confirmed that the Parish Council had paid the deposit the contract had been signed. The charges are to increase to £7 adults and £4 children.

Mr Dodds informed the Committee that there was a big leak in the Hall. A ridge tile on the roof has moved, letting in the rain. He had also noticed brickwork bulging. George Hudson can no longer do roofing work due to new regulations but we had the name of a roofing firm and he would contact them.

The meeting was closed at 7.40pm by Mr B Clinton. Next meeting 17th November 2004 at 6.30pm