

Cornforth Community Centre Management Committee Meeting 18th January 2006

Present: Mr T Dodds (in the chair), Ms R Bellingham, Mr B Clinton, Mrs C Clinton, Mrs A Currie, Mr T Cutmore, Mrs H P Drew, Mrs J Pennick, Mrs A Robinson, Mrs R Richardson, Mr S Robinson, Mrs T Robinson, Mrs J Stephenson, and Mrs V Weir.

Apologies: Mrs M Craggs, Mrs G Dodds, Mr P Ferguson, Ms K Lynn, Mrs E Maddison, Mr S Pennick, Ms S Raine, Mr T Stephenson, Mr A Stubbs, Mrs J Sweeting, Mrs S Traynor.

The meeting was opened at 6.35pm by Mrs Pennick

Matters arising

The £30 bill for the minibus to Wheatley Hill was still outstanding. Ms Bellingham and Mrs Currie had spoken to Ms Lynn but she said the invoice stood.

Erratum. (Re December minutes) It was Mrs J Stephenson who had signed the lease in 2000 with Mr Dodds and Mr Stubbs not Mrs Sweeting.

About 950 Christmas cards had been sold, raising £354.50. Thanks were given to everyone who had worked so hard to help with the project, including the children who had entered the original competition. It was decided to repeat the exercise next Christmas and offer the unsold cards from this year alongside the new design.

There were 3 unclaimed prizes left from the Christmas fair which would be entered into the Spring Fair raffle.

Because of proposed work on the Pool Room Mr Dodds had not ordered the skip yet.

Mr Robinson and Mr Cutmore reported that there were 3 or 4 buckets of paint available to paint the Hallway. It was decided to put a hold on the painting until the electrical work on the Pool Room was done in preparation for the Gym so it could all be done in one go.

A Ms Debbie Lamb would be coming to the Centre on Wednesday 25th January in the afternoon as part of the advisory support secured by Ms Lynn from Enterprise for Inclusion. Mrs Drew regretted she would be unable to attend.

There was a discussion about the lease for the Centre. The members of the Committee from Cornforth House had searched the files there and could only find the lease for the extra piece of land for the football pitch. There was no sign of the 2000 lease for the Centre. Mrs Drew reported that the lease she received from the Borough Council, dating back to the 1950s was not the lease for the Centre but for a piece of ground which had since been overrun by the quarry. Apparently Steetley had given the football field by the roundabout at the top of the by-pass in compensation but we have never run that ground. She had rung the Borough to get the real lease but apparently the file was either with the Charity Commission, who is querying charitable land in the Village, or the Land Registry, as the Borough is checking on all its land. She pointed out that until the lease could be sorted out we would have trouble getting grants as grant bodies insist on seeing valid leases or proof of ownership before giving out grants for buildings. It was decided that she would contact the Borough to see if we could sign a new lease based on the 2000 lease which has disappeared.

Mrs Currie asked if the date for the 10 presentation for the Partnership could be moved to 10th March.

The mural was now finished.

Mrs Drew suggested that the tradition that the December meeting be held before the Carol Concert be changed. The last meeting had really been finished prematurely because we ran out of time before the concert and there was more that would have been discussed give time. There was some agreement although it was pointed out December is a very busy time for everybody.

Correspondence

A letter was received from the Youth Club to tell us that it would not be reopening after the Christmas break due both to low numbers and the fact the Pool Room, where it had been held, is earmarked for the Gym.

Correspondence had been received from DAYCO and CAVOS.

Mr Dodds had been give grant application forms from LeFarge and Banks.

Other business

Mrs Drew brought up the question of a Disability Audit and the 'Accessible Toilet' (the new name for a toilet for the disabled). The hoped-for funding for Cornforth House to do the audit as a youth project had fallen through so Mrs Drew said she would try and get an audit arranged through a contact in Wear Valley. Mr Dodds said he would recontact Mr Mackensie who had said he would give us a quote for the toilet last year.

It was reported that Groundwork and Sedgefield Borough Council would be responsible for the painting and decorating - after we provided the paint - using their Intermediate Labour Market Scheme.

Mr Dodds reported that the drains had been stopped up again. The manhole cover had been smashed and debris from it had been stuffed down the drain. Mrs Stephenson had received a bill for the work which had surprised her as i) we have never paid for the drains to be cleared, the Borough always do it and ii) it appeared to be a bill for her own house and there had been no work done there at all.

The next Rave will be Friday 20th January.

Mr Dodds brought up the Mobile Movies which have been disappointing to say the least. The Parish Council is committed to staging the movies until March when presumably the position will be reviewed. The next movie would be the following night (19th Jan). The Committee members from Cornforth House said they believed the publicity for this movie was better than usual and that that might make a difference.

Mrs Stephenson reported that the pantomime had made a £113.50 profit, however if we had not had a grant from the Parish Council the pantomime would have made a loss. The pantomime company had used the stage this time and it was commented that that had been better as everyone had been able to see. Mrs Drew commented that the next time it should be established at the outset who had the lead and responsibility for pricing, concessions etc. as there had been some problems both years to date.

The public meeting for the gym was discussed.

The meeting was asked if there was anything anyone wanted to put in the next Cornforth Partnership magazine. Mrs Drew asked for some space to be provided for the Gym meeting and any subsequent developments.

The next meeting will be on the 15th February 2006 at 6.30 pm.

The meeting was closed at 7.45pm by Mrs Clinton.