

West Cornforth and District Community Association
Annual General Meeting
15th March 2006

Present: Mr T Dodds (in the chair), Ms R Bellingham, Mrs E Bowerbanks, Mr R Bowerbanks, Mr B Clinton, Mrs C Clinton, Mr J Cole, Mrs A Currie, Mrs H P Drew, Dr S C Drew, Mr P Ferguson, Mrs C Liddle, Mr E Lawson, Ms K Lynn, Mrs L Parkins, Mrs J Pennick, Mrs D Perks, Mr S Robinson, Mrs T Robinson, Mrs J Stephenson, and Miss V Weir

Apologies: Mr T Cutmore, Mrs G Dodds, Mrs S Pennick, Mrs R Richardson, and Mrs S Traynor

Mrs A Currie opened the meeting at 7.00pm

Minutes of 2005 AGM

The minutes of the 2005 AGM were moved by Mrs Lynn and were accepted

Matters arising

There were no matters arising

Chairman's Report

Mr Dodds reported that the Main Hall and the adjoining storeroom had been repaired following winter damage. He also noted that there were cracks appearing in the Hall roof, which would need investigating. He reported that the Saturday Night Dance was ticking over and the Bowls were going slowly. The Over 60's had gone to Acorn Grange. The Snooker Room was sometimes well-used and other times not. We had had some more vandalism with the spouting and down pipes repaired at least twice and the outdoor lighting had had to be replaced. New doors had been fitted to the entrance, which had been paid for by the Parish Council. He reminded the meeting that when the changing rooms were being done the drains at the back would have to be sorted out to prevent blockages. He reported that the Pool Room had been rewired in preparation for the Community Gym and we were waiting for the painting to be finished. He thanked Mrs J Stephenson for all her work, Mrs Drew for her work as Secretary and the committee for all their help and support during the year. He told the meeting he was standing down from the Chair and the Committee, with a heavy heart, due to personal circumstances.

Secretary's Report

Mrs Drew produced a printed report of the membership numbers, sections and affiliated bodies of the Centre and highlights of the year. She said that it was an exciting time for the Centre as the plans for the Community Gym were unfolding and the raves had taken off so well. She acknowledged there were still problems. The field was still unusable, the Youth Club had started again but had moved to Cornforth House, the keep fit had closed when Mrs Sweeting had retired and the replacement teacher had become ill and had to suspend classes. She was still worried about the numbers and age profile of members as there were still two pensioner members for every adult member and no junior members. She was hopeful that the Gym and the football field would help regenerate the Centre. She finished by thanking the Committee for all their hard work and especially Mr Dodds and Mrs Stephenson for dealing with all the matters she could not, as she was working.

Mr Lawson asked about insurance and training for the Gym. Mrs Drew replied that no one would be allowed on equipment without undergoing induction training and that would cover us for insurance purposes.

Treasurer's report

Mrs J Stephenson presented the Accounts for 1st January 2005-31st December 2005. We had ended the year with a slight surplus of £70.26, this compared with a deficit of £1,710.34 last year. She thanked all the workers who helped throughout the year.

The accounts were moved by Mr Ferguson and accepted by the meeting.

In response to a question from Dr Drew it was reported that the following grants had been secured for the Centre:- £7000 - for gym equipment, £500 – for a disability audit, £2000 – to prepare the Pool Room for the Gym and some equipment, 5 days consultancy to create a business plan for the Gym and £5800 for Architect fees to design the changing rooms.

Mrs Drew said she had also put in a bid to Lafarge for £150,000 for replacing the heating, rewiring, putting in an accessible toilet and refurbishing the toilets.

Election of Officers and Committee

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| Chair | Mr P Ferguson |
| Vice Chair | Mr S Robinson |
| Secretary | Mrs H P Drew |
| Treasurer | Mrs J Pennick |
| Assistant Treasurer | Mrs J Stephenson |
| Membership Secretary | Mrs H P Drew |
| Ordinary Members | Ms R Bellingham |
| | Mrs E Bowerbank |
| | Mrs A Currie |
| | Mr T Cutmore |
| | Ms K Lynn |
| | Mrs L Parkins |
| | Mr S Pennick |
| | Mrs R Richardson |
| | Mrs T Robinson |
| | Mrs S Traynor |
| | Miss V Weir |

Mr and Mrs Clinton had to step down from the Committee due to personal circumstances. With regards to Mr Dodds stepping down from the Chair and the committee Ms Lynn reminded everyone how much he had done for the Centre in over 30 years of working for it and how, without him, Mrs Stephenson and Mrs Sweeting we would not have a Centre now. All agreed. Mr Ferguson proposed that Mr Dodds and Mrs Stephenson should be made life members of the Association, Ms Lynn seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

Other business

Ms Lynn gave the meeting an update on the football field. The fencing was ready to install but we were waiting for the ground to dry to allow the machinery needed on the pitch without churning it up. There was a verbal agreement for erecting the goal posts. She hoped all would be done by the end of April. The ground was being maintained by Sedgfield Borough until March 2007 when the Parish Council was to take over. She told the meeting 40 people had expressed interest in using the pitch and that there is good income generation prospects when all is up and running

Mr Bowerbanks told the meeting about the two tubs and the pit wheel which will be erected outside the Centre. Banks were looking after them and would install them when all was ready. It would be an impressive landmark when ready.

The AGM was closed by Mrs Pennick at 7.45pm.