

## **Minutes of the Village Society meeting held 11<sup>th</sup> November, 2009 at the Half Moon and Seven Stars.**

**Present:** Ollie Chapman, John Simpson, Duncan Scott, Alan Coller, Pip Hazelton, Patricia Simpson, David Theoff

**Chairman:** Ollie Chapman was elected Acting Chairman as David Theoff arrived late.

**Apologies** for absence were received from Jan Rudolph, Louise Perryman, Karen Wright, Roger Ayling, Tim Offord

**The minutes of the previous meeting** were accepted as a true record.

**Matters Arising** were covered by the agenda.

### **Finance**

Alan Coller had made a thorough review of monies raised since June and the amounts raised at individual events were as follows:

Steam Rally	997.47
Forstal House	736.95
GearBox at Preston House	160.00
Wine Tasting	426.00

### **Future Events**

The next events will be the Annual Quiz 21<sup>st</sup> November and Christmas Coffee Morning 5<sup>th</sup> December run by the Village Hall. A Pantomime is planned for performance at the end of January by the Drama Group. Suggestions for future events organised by this Committee are a Dance at the Village Hall in February with Goosebumps. Other suggestions include a Plant Sale in May, Garden Safari in June/July. Dorine Flies has offered to organise a furniture sale during the autumn, and a dog show in the summer. Ollie reported that Tony Pearce (former resident of Elmstone) had volunteered to direct a Gilbert and Sullivan production and John reported he had received an offer from a chef to hold a dinner at the Village Hall. All ideas are as seen as positive options and individuals will seek further information and co-operation from other village organisations.

### **Young Persons Action Plan**

John and Alan had already put in the base for the Football Shelter and expect to erect the structure on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> November. They requested help from other members with the work. The Parish Council had voted to take over the ownership of the shelter as it stands on Parish Council land, and had agreed to pay the invoice for £1200 to Wingham Timber. It was agreed that the grant

paid by ACRK (£500) will be paid to the Parish Council, and the remaining £700 will be split between the Parish Council and Village Society.

Pat had attended a meeting at DDC on 3<sup>rd</sup> November to further discuss the setting up of the consortium to start up youth clubs in Ash, Preston and Wingham. She reported that a grant application had been made for the money to run these clubs.

### **Reports on Projects**

*Housing Survey* – Ollie had had no further feedback from ACRK on the response to the Housing Needs Survey. There was criticism of the wording on the questionnaire. Ollie will contact ACRK to find out the current situation and may suggest a re-issue of the questionnaire if the returns were low due to too short a period allowed for the deadline

*Speedwatch* – Ollie reported the Parish Council had been disappointed to receive no PACT report including traffic speed survey, at the council meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> November.

*Village Hall Renovation* – John said the proposed new hall plan had been submitted to DDC for planning permission. We had been issued with a reference number, DOV/09/1008, and the plan is in the process of being validated. If permission is granted we should be informed during January. There was discussion about a strategy for applications for grants and it was agreed we should begin to gather the appropriate information on policies, history of the hall, makeup of local population and clubs and societies and development of the perceived requirement for a new village hall etc. David Theoff had confirmed that a grant of £500 towards the cost of obtaining planning permission for the proposed new hall, had been received from KCC Councillor Leyland Ridings.

*TROTS* – Several members reported that individual riders had indicated that the scheme seems to be working very well. Lorna and Karen are to be congratulated on their hard work setting up the scheme and it was suggested a rider should be asked to write an article for the Newsletter.

*Newsletter* – Pat and John request articles etc for the Newsletter to be submitted by 5<sup>th</sup> December.

### **Any Other Business**

The purchase of a second hand marquee to enable larger outdoor events to take place was discussed. John is currently making enquiries with a Marquee hiring company.

**Date of Next Meeting:** 9<sup>th</sup> December, 2009