

**Minutes of Preston and Elmstone Village Society
At the Half Moon and Seven Stars Public House
27 January 2010 at 8pm**

Members Present:

David Theoff	Chairman
Ollie Chapman	
Roger Ayling	Vice Chairman
Alan Coller	Treasurer
Duncan Scott	
Pat Simpson	
John Simpson	
Louise Perryman	
Tim Offord	
Karen Wright	Acting Secretary

Apologies were received from

Jan Rudolph

Minutes of last meeting agreed

Matters Arising

Frank Pinnington (Clerk to the PC) has asked us to pay for the football shelter before the end of January 2010.

Finance

AC confirmed that we have currently £3,256.93 in the account plus £54.52 in cash. This includes the £1,100.00. which needs to be paid for the football shelter. AC asked about the KCC payment of £500 which was on 5 November 2009 paid by BACS directly into the account. DS confirmed that he would give AC a cheque towards the funds from one of his talks. The Theatre Group Fund of the monies that we have £1,495.72 is ring fenced which is approved towards the Theatre Group Fund.

LP offered her Gunnera plants to raise some money and TO is happy to pot them up so that the Society could make some money from those.

Events

Goosebumps are booked for the 9 April at the village hall. DS has a stock of wine and other drinks so we will need to check stock before purchasing

additional. It was decided that we repeat the same drinks and snacks as we did before, it was also agreed that we could increase the number of ticket sales to 120. As previous, sell tickets in advance, outlets to include the Preston village shop and Preston Butchers also the Wingham shop is happy to sell tickets and promote the event for us. LP will redo the poster. Anyone who has email addresses of people who are interested in the events including the event on the 9 April should send the email addresses to LP so she can keep them posted.

At the next meeting on 10 March we need to have the Goosebumps event finally organised. RA will produce the tickets, these and posters to be brought to that meeting for distribution.

Plant Sale in May

We need to get started as soon as possible; KW has offered space in her greenhouse if anyone wants to grow seeds/plants etc.

Dog and Horticultural Show

No further action taken as yet

Beer Tasting

KW to organise, she is waiting for friend Julian Herrington to come back to her on that.

Casino Night

KW still investigating the events through her Ladies Circle/Round Table connections.

Gilbert & Sullivan Night

Tony Pierce has offered to take part/organise this type of event and KW and LP will be speaking to him soon, but were not able to see him over the Christmas bad weather period.

RA suggested an evening in the summer in his garden and we should give some ideas and thoughts ourselves to see how we would want to work it.

Chef's Evening

The village Hall committee have obtained a grant for a new cooker in the village hall. The next step is to buy the cooker after which JS and PS will be contacting the lady chef for discussions. There were some discussions about the potential cost of a new electrical power supply; DT offered to use his contacts to assist with this item. RA suggested that gas should not be ruled out as this could be the best option.

Pop Concert

This will be discussed at a future dates as PH was not present

Jazz Concert

Martin Ferber and Mary have offered to do a Jazz Concert in August 2010 in their house/garden. Investigate further.

Steam Rally

OC advised that this will be as always, the last weekend in June. The question was raised as to whether we should repeat the Village Society Tea and Cake stand. RA pointed out that if this was to go ahead, we need a new marquee. PS mentioned that it could be possible through scheme called "Grass Routes" to obtain a grant for a new marquee. This would be a great benefit rather than having to rely on others, once obtained this could also then be rented out to 'others' to raise monies for the village hall funds. PS agreed to explore the "Grass Routes" avenue. If we do not succeed with the grant KW mentioned that her friend Henry Martell does hire out his marquee for £50 a time, which could be useful for our 2010 planned events.

DT questioned whether we really wanted to do the tea and cake stand again as although we raised in the region of £1,000.00. the effort of putting the whole event together had been enormous, the committee collectively agreed that the result was considered not bad for the first time of doing it and yes, in view of experience gained and material acquired, we should do it again. Last year we passed the Health & Safety assessment from DDC with flying colours so, as before we are going to keep it simple with tea and cakes, simply increase the number of cakes. RA suggested that we really needed a full refrigerated display cabinet and he would investigate obtaining one. RA will now approach Mike and Lorna Listbrain to confirm that we wish to get involved with the Steam Rally on the same basis as last year.

Young Persons Action Plan

PS said that the boys agreed that the shelter was well received.

Reports

Housing Needs Survey

DT reminded members that Tessa Sullivan from ACRK would be attending the Parish Council meeting on 5th February to review the results of the recent Preston Housing Needs survey. The Parish Council meeting allows a 15 minute slot for parishioners to raise any local concerns before each meeting and RA and DS propose to attend the meeting to use this time to raise relevant questions about the Housing Needs survey.

Concern has been raised by this committee in relation to a lack of response from Dover District Council to the submission of the Village Design Statement which, among other things, raised a perceived need for some regulated housing development in Preston, whether low cost or other privately funded. The current lack of forward planning for any additional housing in Preston could affect the ability of developers or individual builders to provide any additional housing. Additionally, so far there has been no response to specific questions put to our District Councillors about these concerns.

OC reminded members that the Housing Needs Survey and VDS response were two separate issues, and it was agreed that the VDS subcommittee would reconvene to discuss both issues, DS would inform members of the date.

Village Hall Planning Application.

February 4 is the due date for the next DDC discussions. There are many letters of support with very positive feedback and no objections. JS presumes we will get the planning permission needed.

Newsletter

As far as funding is concerned JS and PS have confirmed that PH had agreed an amount of £40 per issue from each of the potential 8 advertisers contacted and they DT and PS be in touch with those accordingly.

Any Other Business

Meeting at Duncan's house to rekindle the village design statement committee will be Tuesday 9 February at 8pm.

Date of Next Meeting

10 March 2010 at the Half Moon and Seven Stars

Meeting closed at 10.03.