

Minutes of Preston and Elmstone Village Society meeting held

4th February 2009 at the Elmstone Court

Present:

Roger Ayling (Acting Chairman)
Louise Perryman (Secretary)
Alan Coller (Treasurer)
Lorna Listbrain
Patricia Simpson
John Simpson
Duncan Scott
Jan Rudolph
Karen Wright

1. Apologies for absence were received from Ollie Chapman, David Theoff and Pip Hazelton

2. Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the meeting of the committee held on 14th January 2009 were adopted as a true record

3. Matters arising

DS stated that the package from the Charity commission was still awaiting. All other matters arising were dealt with by items on the agenda.

4. Payment of accounts

AC reported no change in the last month: Bank Balance £739.21. Cash in hand £29.92.

5. Village Society

Regarding events, DS confirmed that a musical event with a classical quartet at Forstal house was now confirmed. This would be held on 19th July 2009.

LP reported that the band 'Goosebumps' had agreed to play at the village hall for a modest fee and offered two dates in April. 17th April was selected as the preferred one. **Actions:** AC and KW to investigate and arrange liquor licence. LP to confirm with Mark of Goosebumps. PS to ensure Village hall booked.

PS confirmed that they would organise a fundraising plant sale at Elmstone Court in May if they could grow enough to sell. LP suggested asking other keen gardeners if they could contribute. KW offered committee members use of her large greenhouses for bringing on seedling. **Action:** Get planting

JR reported that Archivist Stuart Bligh had responded to her, offer to meet but not until end March, which she thought was too far ahead. **Action:** JR would contact Archivist again offering to visit in an attempt to bring the meeting date forward.

RA confirmed that next Wednesday, PS and JR would be attending the WI Meeting for the first presentation of the Village society, linked in with a history society. He would be taking along his archive photographic material to do a presentation to the group and it was hoped that the history society would help drive and motivate interest in the Village society.

6. Young Persons Action Plan

PS reported that Trevor Skelton was getting a little additional funding from Action for communities in Rural Kent to build a football dugout. Estimates had already been requested from a local company.

She also reported that she was working as part of the newly created the East Stour and Little Ashstone Youth Project to apply for three years' funding to finance part time youth workers as discussed in the last minutes.

7. Reports on Action Plan Progress

Village Hall Refurbishment

JS reported that 3 different propositions in the form of draft plans had been received from 3 architects on 23rd January, as requested. Recruitment of a 'jury' to review them was in progress and would include Dr. Adler, an impartial member from the University of Kent.

He reported that a working party to grub up some trees was in hand. Also that a decision had now been taken to get on and replace the Village Hall windows with double glazed ones to make the hall more attractive for hiring in the winter months.

JR mentioned that she had a list of fund raising activities which someone else had actually implemented. She would pass this one to the Village hall and Village society to consider whether they could adopt some of those ideas. **Action:** JR to send list to relevant parties

Newsletter

JS reported the next issue would come out at end March and articles were needed by 7th March at latest. **Action:** LL to provide article publicising the Steam Rally. LP to write a small piece about Goosebumps and the 17th April event. PS to publicise the upcoming coffee morning and JR to write about plans for the local history project

Speed watch

There had been a police surgery the previous Monday. Promises for speed monitoring through the village were still being made but no further progress on when.

Neighbourhood Watch

Nothing to report

Community Facilities

Nothing to report

Keep the Village Clean

AC confirmed that the next clean up would be organised for March

Footpaths

Nothing to report

10. Any Other Business

KW suggested some kind of horse show or event to raise funds. General response was that it would be nice, especially if it involved something for children, but might be too expensive from an organisational and Health and safety point of view. It would be kept in mind for future planning of events when more research would be needed.

The meeting closed at 21.45.

Date of Next Meeting: 11th March 2009.