



HYTHE & DIBDEN COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

COMMUNITY CENTRE,
BRINTON LANE,
HYTHE,
SOUTHAMPTON. SO4 6DU
Telephone: Hythe 844074

GENERAL MEETING THURSDAY NOVEMBER 11th 1993

AGENDA

1. CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME
2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING - NONE
3. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT
4. SECRETARY'S REPORT
5. TREASURER'S REPORT
6. VOLUNTEER SITUATION
7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

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COMMUNITY CENTRE
BRINTON LANE

OCTOBER. 1993.

HYTE.

The Community Centre is now well into its tenth year on its Brinton Lane Site, and during that time, the Committee of the Association has done its best to maintain a level of service to all of the Groups that have used its facilities.

I cannot remember an occasion when the Centre has not opened its doors to receive groups for their evening activities, and I think it is fair to say that no major problems have been experienced during that time. In fact, on the rare occasions that a Warden has arrived ten minutes late, it has proved so unusual that it has produced complaints.

In the early days, the "Novelty" period so to speak, there was no problem at all in providing Wardens, and even up to a year or two ago, we could still cover every night with ease.

Since then, however, we have been struggling, and at best we have only the Chairman, Secretary and the Daytime Warden, with one Volunteer, covering all five nights. This means that on a good week, somebody has to cover two of the nights, and on a bad one, as happened recently, one of us had to cover three nights in addition to providing assistance at the Association's own Junior Disco at the Parish Hall. This could only be accomplished by using the good services of his wife, who should have been attending an activity at the Centre, but had to forego the pleasure.

This is a situation which cannot continue. Our Chairman has indicated that he will not be carrying on

after the AGM in March, and unless things improve shortly, I will also be considering my position. That will mean that cover for Monday, Tuesday and Friday will be in jeopardy, and our Day Warden is not getting any younger, so Wednesday could also suffer the same way.

Currently there are 700 members of the Association, from whom we seek just 5 volunteers. Perhaps some group with large membership could consider a rota system. That is to say a group meeting every week, providing 6 volunteers, would mean that each one of the volunteers would miss the Activity once every 6 weeks, just 8 times a year.

That is one approach, another is the thought that the Association area has a population of many thousands, therefore it is pertinent to suggest that you have a neighbour who would be glad to have something to do one evening a week. Or maybe you have entertained somebody recently who might be at a loose end. Have a look round. Keep an ear open, try to help, maybe you fancy a quiet evening without the other half once a week. It doesn't have to be a man, we have had several lady volunteers over the years.

If on one of these dark, cold, wet Winter evenings, you turn up at the Centre, but the Warden doesn't, just remember, you have been warned.

We sincerely hope that the situation can be saved, but three nights a week of Voluntary service after a day at work can get very tiring, and the time has come to cry "Enough".

To re-cap we require volunteers to act as Warden one night a week, or in syndicate, from around 6.45 to 10.00 P.M. For more in depth information, or to Volunteers, please contact me at the Centre on Monday or Tuesday ^{Evenings,} phone 844074, or at home on 846423.

In conclusion I would like to once more draw to your attention that this is your Association, and we hold Meetings three times a year for you to attend to air your views, hear what is happening etc. Each group is entitled to send a representative.

At the last meeting, in June, the Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and one member of the Executive Committee attended, that is 4 out of 700!! Please note that the next meeting will be on Thursday 11th November at the Centre at 8 PM. We shall be pleased to welcome a large number of representatives and it will be a good opportunity for open discussion of the present Crisis.

Thank you for your time, and hopefully some action.

RAY KNIERIEM
SECRETARY.