

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
HELD ON 20TH FEBRUARY 1996

PRESENT; Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, 2 Executive and 21 members.

1. WELCOME FROM THE CHAIRMAN: The Chairman, Graham Parkes, welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for attending on such an unpleasant evening.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Ray White (Mini-buses)

3. MINUTES OF THE LAST A.G.M. The minutes were accepted as a true record (Proposed Sylvia Barton, Seconded Cathy Hyde) and duly signed.

4. MATTERS ARISING: It was noted that the car park had not yet been marked.

The redecoration had been started and thanks was expressed to those who had helped. It was regretted that more working parties had not been possible.

5. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT. The Chairman referred at length to the new building. An application for planning permission had been granted. It was necessary to try to re-negotiate the lease. At present it had 12 years to run and we would be seeking a 99 year lease as justification for the cost of the new building. A meeting with the official from the NFDC has been arranged for early March. The plans for the new building had been on display in the Community Centre for some weeks. The employment of the Architect and the application for planning permission was an expensive process and our funds had been dented. The tender will give a more accurate idea of construction costs although it is anticipated that it will be £450000 approx. We will take £50000 from our funds and seek funding for the remainder. Various avenues had been explored.

Lottery- It had not been possible to apply to the Lottery as we did not have the necessary planning permission and our case would not be considered. The current Lottery grants fell outside our remit.

Millenium Commission- tends to be for landmark schemes and is concentrating on Rural or depressed areas. There is a 3rd tranche in September that we may be able to apply for.

Dibden Allotment Charity - An application will be sent as soon as possible with the current Financial Statement and Minutes of the A.G.M. It is felt that this Charity could support the total cost of this project.

District and County Grants - application will be made to both these authorities.

If we are unsuccessful we will then be in serious difficulty.

OTHER ISSUES: There was a still a problem with the lack of evening wardens and an appeal to the groups for help

Reference was made to a news letter from the Community Association dated 1984 where it was reported that after the opening of the new building there was non-stop activity with many social functions from cheese and wine parties, suitcase and car boot sales. It was hoped that the new building would encourage this social spirit to return. Perhaps we can start the Social Committee again. The Spiritualist Church would hold a Fair on May 11th to raise funds for the Association and the Chairman hoped that it would receive good support.

6. SECRETARY'S REPORT. The Secretary reported that there had been 10 Executive Meetings and 3 General Committee meetings this year. Mostly these concentrated on the smooth running of the Centre, maintenance, financial matters and considerable time on the new building plans. Attendance had been good at all Executive meetings but it would be helpful if more groups could be represented at the General Committee meetings. The Chairman had covered the detail of many of the issues in his report.

7. TREASURER'S REPORT. The Treasurer presented the accounts with the comment that the income had increased by 12% this year which was most satisfactory. The cost of the copier was raised and it was recognised that it was uneconomic and there was a meeting arranged with the leasing company shortly with a view to renegotiating the contract. We need customers if we are to be competitive. Attention was drawn to the costs of the Architect's fees and planning permission. A request was made that the Accounts should be made available before the A.G.M. It was explained that the A.G.M. was earlier in the year than usual and it had not been possible to get the audited accounts earlier. The Executive would look at the issue at the next meeting. The Report was accepted with thanks to the Treasurer. (Proposed: Jack Armitage. Seconded: Sylvia Barton)

8. Mini-Buses. A report and Accounts was received from Ray White. The organisation was most efficient and provided excellent facilities for the community. The report was accepted and a vote of thanks passed.

9. ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The following officers were proposed, seconded and elected.

CHAIRMAN: Graham Parkes
VICE-CHAIRMAN: Joe Kollar
SECRETARY: Robin Lansley
TREASURER: Eileen Bateman

GENERAL COMMITTEE: Yvonne Parkes, Pat Parton, Sylvia Barton, Alan Young and Jean Lock.

AUDITOR: Arthur & Co.

10. A.D.E.

- a). Chairs- comments about their comfort! It was pointed out that chairs had to be durable, comfy and stackable and these had been satisfactory.
- b). Maintenance -Comments on the delay in completing the redecoration. A programme of working parties would be arranged, perhaps on a monthly basis. Order - a) Corridor
b) Room A c) Hall 1
- c) Car boot sale/table sale to raise funds?

Meeting closed 8.55 p.m.