

## MEETING OF THE GENERAL COMMITTEE ON JULY 13<sup>TH</sup> 1999

PRESENT: Graham Parkes (Chairman), Eileen Bateman (Treasurer), Robin Lansley (Secretary), Jack Armitage (Warden), Margaret Keer and 8 members

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE; There were none.

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING were signed as a true record.

MATTERS ARISING; 1. The car park had been remarked. 2. The Private car park sign for the Community Centre had been painted and erected. 3. Comments on the redecoration of the building would follow in the Chairman's report.

TREASURER'S REPORT: £5000 had been paid into the High interest acc from the Max. Bonus acc. Figure currently stand High Interest Acc £96,645-62

Max. Bonus £4,882-36

Current Acc £ 1335-04

The total stands at £102,863-02 (20% of the building costs!)

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: The planning permission for the building was still applicable. Graham explained that he had not been able to forward the application for Lottery and Allotment charity funding due to pressure on his time. There were problems created with the development of St. John's, St. Andrews and Baptist Church in Challenger Way. Our case has to be very strong to justify funding. It was agreed that we did provide for the needs of groups particularly with the variety of room size and the very competitive pricing.

We need to bring up the level of manning in the office and the kitchen to show an efficient organisation.

We are aiming to complete the application by September. Letters of support may need to be updated and Martin Devine of NFDC will vet the business case.

The state of the present building is a disgrace. The conscious policy of minimal maintenance has caught up with us. There is a great deal of rotting woodwork in frames and windows and these need to be repaired or replaced as a matter of urgency. A specification will be required for the tendering process.

Three ways for proceeding-

1. Remedial work on window frames and woodwork
2. Exterior painting
3. Mix and match according to tender

It was proposed by Sheila Reeves and seconded by Sylvia Barton that the Executive should be empowered to make a decision for work up to £5000.

This was passed. A safe and attractive building was required

The paving slabs must be dealt with as it is our responsibility to maintain them in good order.

It was suggested that photos might be used to demonstrate the state of the building if it would enhance our application for funding.

GROUP ISSUES: 1. Smoking in the entrance and Inn Centre caused offence to many. There was no policy laid down other than no smoking was permitted in the kitchen or office. It was up to groups to determine their policy in their own meetings. It was

suggested that an extractor fan might be put in the Inn Centre and this whole matter may be brought at the A.G. M.

The Friends had met on July 1<sup>st</sup> with 10 attending. It was felt that there was a need for the group. The object was to help and support the committee. To increase the awareness of the Community Centre in the area. One way was to gain information about the activities of the groups in the centre and advertise this in the Herald. There needs to be more advertising on the activities available.

The Friends were hoping to organise a car boot or table top sale in October. John and Sylvia had volunteered to organise this activity.

Comment was made that the Community Centre was not known. We needed new posters in the window and the board should be higher. Could a finger post to the centre be erected?

Notices in the entrance hall need to be smart to attract attention.

The garden organised by Sylvia Barton had raised £226. Many thanks to Sylvia for her efforts!

No further business the meeting closed at 9.12 p.m.