

MINUTES OF COMMUNITY CENTRE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE ADDISON V.C ROOM ON 21st APRIL 2015

PRESENT: Cllrs. Veitch (in the Chair), Bunyan, Summers, Rook and Bob Butler.

APOLOGIES: Cllrs. Bancroft and Fermor.

Members who have a personal or prejudicial interest, whether direct or indirect within the meaning of Section 51 of the Local Government Act 2000, or a personal or prejudicial interest defined by the Cranbrook & Sissinghurst Parish Council's Code of Conduct, in any of the matters appearing on the agenda are invited to declare that interest at this stage. Alternatively, personal interests can be declared at the time when a specific item is being discussed, if a member wishes to speak on an item in which they have a personal interest.

No interests were declared.

75/14: Planning Application:

Cllr. Veitch confirmed that the target date for a decision on the application is 11th May however it is unlikely that a decision will be available by then as it is probable that the application will be considered by the planning committee which is not due to convene before that date. The agent DHA have confirmed that TWBC have received comments from Southern Water, KCC Public Rights of Way, Environmental Health, the Environmental Agency and KCC Archaeology, no objections were raised although some of the consultees did suggest conditions. They had also received 4 responses from neighbours.

Cllr. Veitch was hopeful that a decision on the B.P.N. for the Cranbrook Engineering site would soon be forthcoming, Helen Grant had been instrumental in pushing for a speedy decision. Historic England (English Heritage), were expecting representations from Cllr. Linda Hall, Tim Kemp, Guy Johnson and TWBC, after which they would make a recommendation to the Secretary of State.

76/14: Access Permission:

Cllr. Veitch reported that she was confident that the access issue was close to a resolution. TWBC had drawn up a draft Heads of Terms which was hoped would form the basis of an agreement subject to some clarification on certain issues. A copy of the draft HoT is filed with this Minutes.

77/14: Fundraising Strategy Plan:

Cllr. Veitch circulated a Power Point presentation she had received from a recent fundraising training event. She also produced a discussion document she had devised, a copy of which is attached to these Minutes. A full discussion followed. Cllr. Summers queried whether a professional fund raiser should be sought. The Committee agreed that some fundraisers had secured more success than others in the local area. After a lengthy discussion Cllr. Veitch proposed that the job specification for the role be devised and further exploration of the costs involved be sought, this was seconded by Cllr. Bunyan and agreed. Cllr. Bunyan mentioned that a neighbour, Rachel Holweger, an experienced fundraiser had previously offered to give some advice and that Cllr. Fermor was going to speak to her. During a discussion on 'Competitor Analysis' Bob Butler stated that although the Church would be looking for funds in the future he did not think they would be a competitor for funds in the short term.

Cllr. Veitch reported that she was still awaiting the charity number for the memorial fund set up in her husband's name and confirmed that the trust would have its own accountants and solicitors and that David Cook, Francis Rook, Sandra Marsh and herself would be the trustees.

Cllr Rook felt it was important to include the surrounding villages in fundraising efforts as the Community Centre would be a resource for all. Members agreed that a separate committee purely for fundraising may be needed and that when the new council is in situ decisions on these issues would need to be made.

Cllr Rook offered to start looking at marketing material for the project and Cllr. Summers offered to investigate who did the fundraising for Hospice in the Weald and Air Ambulance as they were particularly successful in generating a good income. Cllr. Veitch suggested that a database could be set up to list potential donors and she would speak to the Clerk regarding this issue.

78/14: Items for Information:

No items were raised.