

New Parish Hall Committee Meeting 28th February 2008

Present: Claire Ray, Vic Cornell, Margaret Hersey, Ed Chamberlain, Teresa Snow.

Apologies: Jan Harris, Reg Burningham.

Minutes: The minutes of the last meeting were agreed and signed.

Chairman's Report: Claire told us that she had been to see Jim Dean and asked him if he would make a friendly, welcoming sign for the car park. He was very helpful and said he would do it, and would be delighted to do any other signs, notice boards etc. that we might need in the future.

Ed, Margaret and Claire are all going to the Newton Abbot racecourse to meet the funders on the 4th March. Gill Grey says that lots of new people will be there and she will help us contact any who might possibly help with grants.

The Antiques evening is on the 14th March and is a fund raising event.

Claire said that everybody she has asked is coming up with good ideas for fund raising; the Brownies had made £275, which is fantastic and greatly appreciated.

There has been a very positive reaction to the new car park.

There is a Meet the Team event on the 9th March.

Treasurer's Report: Margaret told us that the balance is £31,798.76 of which £279.77 is for projects. She also mentioned that there is a possibility that, under Section 106, there might be some grant money available from the Denbury Diesel site when it is re-developed. At the moment she is not quite certain who to apply to.

Vice-chairman's Report: Vic wanted us to give some good, cogent reasons why there should be any proposal to change the position of the hall from where it is presently planned to be. Claire's response was that it was too far from the road, entailing a long walk for elderly people who might want to attend coffee mornings etc. Ed was concerned about the lack of space around the hall and pointed out that if, at any future time, there should be a need to expand the facilities, whether temporarily or permanently, there is absolutely no room at all to do so. Both Vic and Ed were concerned about the very restricted access to the hall in any emergency, a fire or an accident, say. Claire felt that it should be visible from the road, and was also concerned about the restricted access to the hall for services and for emergency vehicles. The other concern was noise. If the hall is built at the back of the site, as presently planned, the noise from any evening event would be quite intolerable to the people in North Street, whose houses would be extremely close to it. If the hall were to be moved to a position where it is equidistant from all the properties surrounding it then it would be possible to screen all of them more effectively.

Subject to public and planning approval this Committee would like to develop the new hall site on the basis that it is moved from that corner.

Action: To draft a letter to the Trustees about moving the hall.

May Fayre: Discussion centred round how much we should ask for, and what specific project the money is needed for. Ed pointed out that we would need at least £5,000 for drains and drainage since it is one of the conditions of planning that we get land drainage in place before we start any work. Therefore we should apply for a sum of money to provide soakaways for surface drainage. Reg has drawn up a plan, which Ed showed us, showing the suggested positions for trial holes for drainage. The sum required will be greater than the amount we will be able to ask for from the May Fayre, therefore some of the money will have to come from the building fund, since this is necessary work. When it was put to the vote all were in favour