

# CRASTER COMMUNITY TRUST

## Meeting of Committee

Wednesday 22 February 2012 in the Memorial Hall

1. **Present:**

**Members:** Chairperson Joyce Shaw, Kevin Brown, Doris Clarke, Michael Gibbs, Rosemary Gibbs, Bridget Kohler, Heather Lee, Elizabeth Pearson, Alan Punton, Jackie Reeves, Michael Robson.

**Member of Public:** Margery Taylor

2. **Apologies:**

Hilary Punton.

3. **Resignation:**

The Secretary reported that we have received Chris Johnson's resignation due to new commitments that have arisen since he joined the Committee. He and his wife Maggie would be happy to help in a voluntary capacity as occasion arose. The Secretary was asked to convey the Committee's thanks to Chris.

4. **Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting 25 January 2012:**

Approved.

5. **Matters arising:**

1. **Hall development**

**a. Progress report**

Chris Downs has submitted the plans to the Planning Department (ref 12/00413/FUL) – closing date for objections 10 March 2012. The plans show the window in the kitchen on the South elevation being extended rather than blocked in as originally intended. Chris has said this could be corrected and the meeting resolved to ask for this to be done – the advantage of extra light being less than the need for storage space above the counter on this wall. The Committee also asked that the gable end of the new shed should be of stone rather than rendering.

It was agreed that the plans should be on show at Saturday's (25/2) Browse In with a place for comments to be recorded. A notice of this is to be posted on the notice board, at Mick Oxley's Studio and delivered to the Hall's near neighbours beforehand. Copies of the plans would be emailed to the Parish Council, W.I., and the Art Club.

Chris Downs will send out the questionnaire (copies circulated) to our list of contractors before the contract specifications are delivered to those seen as appropriate. He will appoint Alf March of Patrick Parsons as structural engineer for a fee of £1620 plus VAT.

**b. Initial report of redecoration working group (Doris Clarke, Joyce Shaw and Rosemary Gibbs)**

Doris Clarke reported the initial recommendations of the group:

Windows,

White (decorator to advise whether undercoat required),

No blinds – difficult to clean

If possible, use existing curtains but cleaned

New curtain poles

Walls,  
Sanded to clear flaking  
Colour – Willow green/Tea infusion  
Wood panelling – strip and paint Sage green  
Paints to be fire retardant  
Remove mantelpiece on Northside wall  
Ceiling,  
White

For decision – either contractors quote for paint and materials, or we purchase paint and contractors quote for labour alone.

Kitchen floor,  
Non-slip surface  
Colour – Natural wood

Electrics,  
Hall – increase number of sockets for greater flexibility  
update existing strip lighting  
Kitchen – recessed ceiling lighting

Heating,  
New boiler outside East wall  
New slim-line radiators

Kitchen,  
Equipment to include heavy gauge stainless steel double basin sink,  
commercial dishwasher, cooker, fridge, hob.

Working group to approach Howden's, Lionheart Kitchens and Geoffrey Tucker for quotations on design and installation. The working group would need to accompany each of the three to explain what is needed and to listen to any ideas the contractor might have.

#### **c. Gift of chairs**

The stacking chairs donated from the Methodist Chapel were transferred to the Hall by Alastair and Scott Grey at no cost. The Secretary has written to both of them thanking them for their help.

#### **d. Plans for reopening event**

Members felt it was presently too soon for detailed plans – to be considered later.

### **2. Review of the Website**

Jackie Reeves has purchased the new version of Dreamweaver and will purchase the domain for the new visitors web-site. Peter Howard kindly outlined for Michael Gibbs what is involved in running the web-site and gave him a copy of the underlying files. Until someone is found to take on maintaining the web-site it will have to stay in abeyance. Peter has offered to help with the process of transferring this work but the holiday season is about to begin.

### **3. Lead Members for the Federation of Northumberland Development Trusts (FoNDT) and the North Northumberland Village Halls Consortium (NNVHC)**

With the resignation of Chris Johnson the Committee needs to find a lead member for FoNDT. Michael Robson has made contact with NNVHC but may not be able to attend its next meeting.

#### **4. Queen's Diamond Jubilee**

The Committee will try to work in consultation with the Parish Council. Amongst ideas being considered is the construction and lighting of a beacon. Another that will have to start soon, is the planting of red, white and blue flowers at designated locations in Craster and Dunstan, with residents being encouraged to do the same in their gardens. It may be possible to arrange a party (in the Playpark to avoid the bureaucracy of street closure) – the Hall may not be available as a wet weather alternative.

#### **6. Treasurer's Report:**

Jackie Reeves had circulated a schedule showing the Trust funds at 22 February 2012 which amount to £137,289.11.

We have been advised that next year's premium for our insurance will at £900.02 be no increase on that of the current year. While we should need to advise our insurers when the Hall would be in process of refurbishment, it is thought to be too early to do so yet.

#### **7. Playpark**

Alan Punton and Kevin Brown kindly volunteered to deal with two matters needing early attention: they would remove the rocking horses and whichever of the two picnic tables has become dangerous through wear. The Parish Council has received enquiry from people wishing to install a memorial for a family member and who might pay for a replacement.

The Secretary was asked to write to the Parish Clerk requesting that the Playpark should be included on the tourist attraction fingerpost being arranged by Councillor John Taylor. The Committee would be prepared to make a contribution to the cost.

Doris Clarke is to retire from many years of arranging the Air Ambulance Coffee Mornings. It was suggested that in their place we put on a similar event for the maintenance of the Playpark.

#### **8. Plans for income raising after the refurbishment**

It was accepted that there is a need for such planning and we should return to the matter after the Committee has had time to formulate some proposals.

#### **9. Date of next meeting**

The next ordinary meeting of the Trust will take place 7.00 p.m., Thursday 22 March 2012, in the Hall.