

# CRASTER COMMUNITY TRUST

## Meeting of Committee

Thursday 24 May 2012 in the Memorial Hall

1. **Present:**  
**Members:** Chairperson Joyce Shaw, Kevin Brown, Doris Clarke, Michael Gibbs, Rosemary Gibbs, Elizabeth Pearson, Jackie Reeves.

2. **Apologies:**  
Bridget Kohler, Heather Lee, Alan Punton, Hilary Punton, Michael Robson.

3. **Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting 26 April 2012:**  
Approved.

4. **Matters arising:**

### 1. Hall development

#### a. Progress report

The Committee addressed questions raised by Christopher Downs to allow him to finalise the contract specifications. These included where to place a skip and where vans can be parked during the period of construction.

It was agreed that Kevin Brown will purchase a 90 cup water boiler to be installed in the new kitchen.

Locations for electric socket outlets would be identified for Chris at the end of the meeting, as too would those for low-surface temperature radiators. In answer to his question about what external condensing boiler is needed, it was agreed we should suggest a Worcester Bosch Green Star oil-fired combi boiler.

It was agreed we should specify strip lighting throughout (recessed spot lights can build up heat above their fittings). However daylight tubes with energy saving switches should be substituted for our present lighting.

It was also agreed that redecoration should be included in the main contract.

Chris had submitted an invoice in the amount of £1,944.00, for Alf March's structural review of the Hall plans. As this was exactly what Patrick Parsons had quoted, payment was approved.

#### b. Kitchen

Howdens had sent a new set of drawings together with an estimate after Kevin spoke to their John Sharp. However there were some units missing and no provision had been made for an extractor fan over the hob.

Kevin went through the drawings with the Committee and amendments were agreed – two wall cupboard units by the Hatch, one above the extractor fan (to be provided and installed as part of the main contract).

A Dimplex fan heater would be installed for meetings at the north end of the kitchen, thus avoiding the necessity of heating the whole Hall for such meetings.

#### c. Equipment and other disposals

The organ, the curtains and the fridge had been taken as a result of advertisement on Freecycle.

Rothbury auctioneers have taken the cupboard from the Hall, another glass-fronted from the kitchen and the cupboard used by the WI at the bottom of the stairs. They have also taken the plastic chairs. They estimated potential proceeds of £180 from which 12.5% commission and up to £70 collection and valuation costs would be deducted.

It was agreed that the cooker should be scrapped as it had not been safety tested.

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

It was agreed that Jackie Reeves should change the name of the website from Craster Community Development Trust to Craster Community Trust and that Peter Howard be asked to act as our agent until Laurence Reeves can take over.

The new Craster Community Trust website should cover the constitution, members, agenda and minutes of the Trust, the Parish Council and the W.I. provided that they pass, without reminders, that information to Laurence Reeves (when he has finished his exams) in a form that requires minimal editing.

If St. Peter's Church Committee wish, we shall explore the viability of including the Net on the website, as too, their various duty rotas.

## **3. Playpark**

Little to report – the Addys have yet to get their memorial plaque. The condition of the grounds is less than satisfactory. Rocks and stones are still coming to the surface hidden amongst the grass, creating a hazard for children.

## **4. Federation of Northumberland Development Trusts (FoNDT)**

Minutes of its last meeting have been circulated. We still await notice of what grant we may expect from the NCC.

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

Alan Punton has reported that Dougie Hogg has made the beacon to be set on Burn Hill. Michael Gibbs will draft a poster to say when it will be lit and to invite people to bring picnics. With many of the Committee being away the first week in June, it is hoped Alan with the help of Richard Pearson will set up and fuel the beacon.

## **6. Matters referred to the Parish Council**

The Secretary has found the Trust's copy of the Northumbrian Water agreement for use of part of the Playpark during the sewage contract period. The lease expired 6 March 2012. Northumbrian Water having re-seeded the area, presumably considered it had met its obligations by then. The Trust, having, by an oversight, not addressed in time whether the re-instatement was satisfactory, in the absence of any clear breach of the agreement, will have to accept that it is.

The view was expressed that a conscientious effort had been made to reinstate the area (members reported their satisfaction with the way Seymour's had carried out the contract in terms of consideration for residents and time taken). Little could have been done to prevent rocks emerging after the re-seeding was complete.

## **7. Highlights**

Rosemary and Michael Gibbs had attended a workshop in Belford in which the Highlights website was explained and the programme for Autumn 2012 was introduced.

As a member of the scheme the Trust will have to choose by 18 June one or two performances from the programme. Not all the performances will be suitable – some are for children, of whom Craster has few, others are of less than 60 minutes duration,

limiting how much can be charged, and some of the best are during the Christmas holiday, when people are likely to be otherwise engaged. Michael Gibbs will copy to the Committee details of those which seem the most suitable.

**5. Treasurer's Report:**

Jackie Reeves circulated a schedule showing the Trust funds at 23 May 2012 which amount to £136,793.67. She had also prepared a schedule of the Hall refurbishment budget showing a small balance of funding available after estimated costs.

We have been told that the CE Electric £5,000 grant can be used for the kitchen.

The Treasurer noted that income from the Art Club has ceased after their Bank Holiday Exhibition as they are suspending their sessions until our refurbishment is complete. The weekly Browse-In will cease this weekend also. There should be some offsetting savings on electricity and cleaning.

**6. Annual General Meeting:**

It now seems unlikely that the refurbishment will start much before July. With holidays in August it may be sensible to plan the AGM for September. Jackie will advise the Charity Commission of this.

**7. Date of next meeting**

The next ordinary meeting of the Trust will take place 7.00 p.m., Thursday, 28 June 2012. We shall ask the RNLI if the Lifeboat House could be made available for this.