

**MINUTES OF DELPH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY  
FEBRUARY 19<sup>TH</sup> 2008 AT 7.45PM ST. THOMAS' CHURCH HALL**

**PRESENT:**

Graham Griffiths, Gill Clark, Mark Burgin, Phillida Shipp, Joan Lally, Sheila Stott, Geoff Bayley, Keith Begley, Mike Buckley, Monica Seville and Rachel Steed (GMP), Jack Crossley, Sandra Risby, Bill Hullah.

**APOLOGIES:**

A. Watts, P.C. Greeny, J. Brocklehurst, J. Leighton

**WEBSITE:**

The Chair suggested that, as Mark had to leave early, we take his report first. Mark reported that he would be grateful for more contributions in order to make the website informative and interesting. Contributions should be sent directly to Mark and he will incorporate them on the website. Another leaflet is to be sent out - Mark will liaise with Sandra and Joanne. If anyone is buying over the internet we should encourage them to go through our website: it will cost them no more and we would get a small amount of money back.

Rachel (GMP) will send crime figures etc to Mark, specifically for crime in Delph.

The Chair thanked Mark for his report and the meeting reverted to the original agenda.

**MINUTES OF LAST MEETING (Tuesday 20 Nov. 07)**

Addition to paragraph 3 - the police number is **061 872 50 50**. (There is an additional number to ring if you actually see an incident happening and want a quick response. Rachel will check on this number and report back). But of course you can also still dial 999.. It was then proposed and seconded that the Minutes be accepted as correct.

**MATTERS ARISING:**

**Update on behaviour in village:** young people are still gathering but their behaviour is less rowdy and offensive. Credit for this should be accorded to the police and recorded in these Minutes. Jack Crossley reported that he is not picking up so much trash the following morning. Graham reported that Martin O'Connell and the safety team also helped in the background - the police will pass on thanks to Martin and team on behalf on DCA.

**Library Alarm System:** the Saddleworth and Lees Community Council have granted money to pay for the alarm system when finished. Jan Joshi will receive the invoice.

**Chapel Gardens Update:** Mike Buckley reported on the following:

- 1) Series of exhibitions and community to give feedback.
- 2) Draw up artist's sketch of scheme for people to comment on.

Greater Manchester Council for voluntary organisations approached to get professional help to draw up scheme i.e. landscape architects. The ideas will then be drawn up and costed for people to view. Bids will then go out for tender, eg graves, tree management and wall. High Moor Trust will then be approached to see if we can get funding (also Lottery) and then a Project Manager will be needed. There is to be a meeting next week to progress to the next stage i.e. plans etc drawn up. Jack Crossley said he had made suggestions but had no feedback at all. Mike replied that there had been 20/30 responses which needed to be distilled to try and get some commonality and they haven't yet got to the stage of reporting back for consultation. Graham said the DCA will publicise this follow up i.e. through the Library. Jack asked if the people who had commented on the proposals could have a reply as they had given their names and address.

End of Matters Arising.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:**

<b>Bank Balance</b>	£4,660
Profit for year to date (1 July)	£305

**Significant Income:**

- |                                       |      |
|---------------------------------------|------|
| 1) Al Gore film show raised           | £246 |
| 2) Friends of Delph Library Donations | £390 |
| Gift aid reclaimed on above           | £95  |

We need to continue to push for donations to be made using the gift aid envelopes wherever possible to ensure maximum tax claims.

**Significant Expenses:**

Mainly security related - £768 paid to Oldham Council re annual security (reduced by Phillida

from the original invoice received of £1,527).

Phillida has arranged new system and so cost should be reduced going forward. Grant will be received to reimburse the costs of the new system following successful application by Ken and Phillida.

General library running expenses - electricity, gas, windows, phone, internet.

**Fundraising:** Different people are progressing with these.

**Scarecrow Trail:** The Meeting decided to repeat this popular event and Sue Lund is willing to go ahead with this. A sub committee will be formed -Sue, Gill, Joanne, Sandra, Di Guest, Jacob and any volunteers to make donkeys will be appreciated. Help will be needed to produce the brochure (we lost money on this last year) also a lot of our publicity was done for us by the Arts Festival. Sue would like someone to take over the brochure advertising. Themes suggested - historical figures; characters in songs - but we will still keep the donkey link. The scarecrows should ideally be indoors or at least 10 ft off the ground. Date not yet agreed but we need to cater for half term holiday.

**Internet Buying:** Need to publicise this more.

**Hanging Basket Competition:** Keith Begley suggested that hanging baskets could be put up where Christmas trees had been previously, as the brackets are still there. *Wake Up Delph* would hang them in the main street so this would not preclude a competition taking place away from the main street. Jack wondered if it could perhaps be linked into 'Village in Bloom'.

Keith reported that they are going ahead with Party in the Park - although the tickets will be restricted to about 1500 this time. The Street Party and Christmas Fund Raising Dinner will also go ahead.

It was agreed that the DCA Executive will look into the Hanging Basket competition criteria in association with *Wake Up Delph* and liaise with the Horticultural Society on Village in Bloom. A discussion took place about our MP (Phil Woolas) and the Al Gore film event. It was suggested that Phil Woolas could have paid for this event out of his own funds. This discussion highlighted the need for the DCA to be careful how we put things on when MPs are involved.

#### **ENVIRONMENT:**

Sandra reported that she has had no response from Oldham Council. She now liaises with Gordon Anderson as Alan Clayton has moved. .

**Outstanding Matters:** No review of the village Improvement Scheme as Tony Noblett is difficult to contact. Road narrowing warning signs to motorists driving into the village are considered necessary. Some motorists are increasing their speed to get over bridge quickly rather than being held up. Also no action yet on zoned restriction past school. Sandra suggested we should approach Councillors instead of Council.

#### **Proposed Flow Measurement Station, Delph -**

Extract from Design and Access Statement circulated to meeting.

*The station, when commissioned, will form part of a network of similar stations throughout the North West which, through the use of telemetry, automatically feed information on river levels and flows directly to the Environment Agency's head office in Warrington. The Data provided by the stations assists the Agency in formulating long term plans to enhance flood protection for properties potentially affected by flooding. The proposed kiosk will house the telemetry equipment which will then be linked by cable to an encoder attached to the river retaining wall.....The kiosk measures 2 metres high x 1 metre wide x 1 metre deep....*

**Water Scheme:** Mike Buckley suggested we invite engineers to explore viability of scheme. Website can show how much energy you can get out of river flow (flow rates plus drop will give amount of energy). Parish Council are enthusiastic about it. Keith informed the Meeting that the Environmental sub group will visit New Mills sometime in June and that someone from DCA will be invited to go along.

#### **INDEPENDENT CHAPEL:**

Planning permission not yet applied for.

#### **HIGH MOOR TIP:**

Diane Bolan's resume: The Environment Agency have produced a monthly bulletin which provides information about the landfill - it is put on the website by Mark. It was reported by the EA that High Moor had a serious problem with the water and they were going to take samples. A small amount of leachate could be leaving the waste cells and entering the ground at the landfill but no specific reports have been received regarding water from the site affecting beyond the boundaries. February 12<sup>th</sup> experienced the worst gas escape we have

ever seen, covering a large area of Saddleworth. This was apparently due to the digging of trenches to install a gas extraction system where waste is currently being deposited. The number to ring if you have any concerns is 0800 80 70 60.

Geoff Bayley reported that water with foam on is coming out of Thurston Clough Road - this needs to be reported.

**LIBRARY:**

Phillida - request for more people to use the Library. Also a work experience person is to start soon.

**MILLGATE CENTRE:**

Progressing with bid for money - possibly have news by end of March.

**HOME WATCH:**

Geoff Bayley reported that Peter Lee sent him the application form for Home Watch Scheme and this is up and running on Stoneswood Road, covering 16 dwellings. They now have the information packs and Geoff e-mails the residents: this is easily done and Geoff feels we should publicise this more. Maybe a Delph Community Home Watch scheme could be looked into. It was decided to invite Peter Lee back and discuss this proposal and perhaps Geoff could put out a press release. Executive to look into this.

**FUNDRAISING**

Delph Club Table Top Sale - Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> 12 - 4 pm.

Cheese and Wine evening - could take place May or June on Wednesday in conjunction with Fair Trade. Possibly join with Phil for this occasion?

**ANY OTHER CORRESPONDENCE:**

Gill has written to thank Phil Woolas and Chris ..for coming to the Al Gore film evening.

Mr Heywood - Fire cover letter should be sent out. Jack Crossley said a 25% reduction in appliances is being proposed - we should write to individual Mps or Fire Authority (Peter Dean?) about these cuts.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING:**

**Tuesday April 8<sup>th</sup>.**

**AGM July. 8th**

Home Watch Meeting - sometime in May - Executive to decide after liaising with Peter Lee (Gill to get dates). Fliers distributed round village beforehand.