

NORTON CANES PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Projects Committee Held on 4th October 2010 at Parish Office

Present: Cllrs N.Booth, L.Bullock, J.Bridgen and T.Hurl
L.Florence (Clerk)

Apologies: Cllr.A.Bernard

1. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Minutes of the meeting held on the 16th June were agreed as a true record.

2. Matters Arising from the Minutes

There were no other matters arising from the Minutes that are not on the agenda.

3. Koncas

Discussion ensued on the future of Koncas due to the fact that the current volunteers are stating that they wish to either resign or reduce their involvement and the implications for the Parish Council as the signatories for the head lease. The Lease on Unit 13 ceases in September 2012. There is an agreement in place whereby Koncas will pay the last year of the remaining rent.

The Clerk has explored the arrangement with the Youth Service as to whether they would be able to provide support for the continuation of the Project but they cannot give any assurances beyond April 2011 due to restructuring and cutbacks.

A meeting with June Davies needs to be arranged to look at the future of the Project and to try and engage the Partnership and the Community Centre to enable all organisations to look at this issue.

There is still some suggestion that an annexe at the Community Centre would be viable which would then only require running costs to be met. The Parish Council need to discuss the viability of continuing the payment of the rent on Unit 13. Discussions also need to take place with Hunter Douglas with regard to their intentions for Unit 13 post September 2012.

The Clerk outlined the review of the Terms and Conditions with Koncas. These discussions have been ongoing and the document is now agreed but requires legal advice to ensure that it is fit for purpose. The County Council have a legal Dept who are now offering their services to external bodies and

agreement is sought from this Committee to proceed with requesting the County Council to advice on the current document. The cost involved will be between £400 and £600.

The Underlease for Unit 13 now needs to be resigned due to the original document being signed by the then Chairman and Clerk and which has now been determined as not being legal. Ansons Solicitors have been asked to reprint the document to enable signatures to be resigned.

It was resolved:

Authority was given for the Clerk to request the County Council Legal Dept to proceed with drawing up an Agreement in the framework of the Terms and Conditions.

4. Development of Land Brownhills Road/Burntwood Road

Cllr Booth put forward to the Meeting that the Parish Council should consider taking over the piece of land opposite the Croft Bakery and develop it along the lines of the Millennium garden. Discussions ensued on how this could be shaped and include a memorial for both war veterans and miners in the village who lost their lives when working down the pits. It was suggested that some funding could be sought for this development through the Commonwealth War Graves Commission and that this should be explored. Local schools and the Partnership could also be involved in the Project.

District Council have been contacted in the first instance for their approval.

It was resolved:

The meeting supported the development to be reported at the next Council meeting for consultation,

5. Lantern Parade

Cllr Booth outlined the details of the Lantern Parade to be held on the 7th December. This was being done in conjunction with the Community Partnership.

6. Burial Ground

Update was given on the progress with Burial Ground. Two options need to be explored due to the local feeling of residents. The meeting was informed that the District Council have money set aside to carry out geographical surveys on suitable burial ground sites.

7. Date of Next Meeting: To be arranged.

Meeting closed at: 7.40 p.m.

Signed: Dated:

Cllr.N.Booth