

Summary Minutes of the ORAC meeting held on 12 January 2010

Committee Present: Steve, Andrew, Dawn, Linda, Nigel, Rob, Donald, Scott and Di.

Apologies: Dan and Gordon

Minutes: of the previous meeting were agreed.

Secretary's Report: Di outlined various correspondence items received and sent since the last meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Dawn distributed the current balance sheet. £11,000.00 borrowed from the loan has been repaid. £6,000.00 outstanding to ES&H is still to be paid, pending ongoing repairs. The electricity provider for the hall has been changed to OPUS, who will provide a cheaper tariff. Any profits realised from the current regular hirers of the hall, will be put towards paying off the cost of the building and providing further amenities in the hall. New hall rating valuation received of £5,300 per year (previous hall £360 per year). Relief applied for and 100% granted, so nothing to pay.

The Christmas Dinner had realised £647.00, the bar at the school play - £146.00, Christmas Eve Santa Visit - £100.00 and New Year's Eve Party - £53.00.

Dawn also showed the committee an example of the chairs, which have been offered to ORAC, free of charge for use in the hall. Everyone agreed that this was a very kind offer and agreed to accept.

Oracle: Copy for the next Oracle is due on 17 March 2010, ready for the April issue. The next Oracle evening is due to be held on 19 January.

Web Site: Barry had again been working on the web site and made adjustments to the Village Hall page. Committee were reminded that bookings should be made using the on-line booking system, where possible.

Village Green: A site meeting had been held regarding the bus stops and following this, the Parish Council had submitted their application for a grant to Suffolk County Council. Results of the application are still awaited.

Village Hall: Despite 3 items from the outstanding snagging Items list being corrected, there were still many more waiting for the contractors to attend to.

Over the Christmas period, a television, hostess trolley and microwave oven had been very kindly donated for use in the hall. Much discussion took place around the acoustics in the main hall.

It was agreed that acoustics experts be asked for their thoughts and a site visit be arranged, with a view to providing ways to reduce the echo problem. Committee agreed that the purchase of curtains for the main hall should go ahead. It was also agreed that sound-dampening hoods for the ventilators be expedited. It was agreed that cooking pans could be purchased for use in the kitchen. The engineer is due to visit on 15 January to inspect the burglar alarm call-out system and to rectify several other electrical items.

Di gave a presentation of the licensing conditions attached to the hall and playing field, in order to bring everyone up to date on this matter. Particular attention was drawn to the conditions surrounding the sale and provision of alcohol.

Play Area: The report from ROSPA was still awaited. It was agreed that Bill would be asked if he was willing to take over the weed control and general maintenance of the play area.

Fund Raising/Marketing: The next event planned is the Annual Quiz on 24 April.

The Cabaret Night (aka 'School-days' themed, 80's Disco), is due to be held on 15 May. (Subsequently changed to 22 May).

It was agreed that Kevin (Knights) should be asked to come onto the committee, to give guidance and help on expanding the produce-show side of the fete and also the children's input. Alison would be approached about a possible demonstration of belly-dancing at one of the functions planned. Some thought was given to screening some possible football matches in the hall, during the World Cup tournament.

Committee agreed to hold a separate meeting to further discuss plans for the coming year. This was set for Monday 18 January.

The possible new activities sheets, which had been distributed with the December Oracle, had elicited several replies, with particular regard to a luncheon club. Three mats had been purchased for use with the dart boards.

Any Other Business: Linda reminded committee about the up-coming Pre-School Valentines Disco on 13 February.

Date of next meeting: 18 January 2010

The meeting closed at 10.40pm