

Extra-ordinary meeting Wednesday 4th April 2012 7.00 p.m. North Kyme Village Hall

Attending: Cllr G Pout (Chairman)_Cllr J Dring, Cllr G Panton, Cllr L Mayhew, District Cllr Powell

Jade Warren (NKDC Children's Services) Mr Nick Lamb (NKYG)

The Chairman Cllr G Pout explained the purpose of the meeting was to discuss issues surrounding the proposal put forward by Mr Lamb to use the present village hall as a Youth Centre and site it, if possible, next to the new Village Hall on land owned by the Parish Council.

He also explained that the Parish Council had delayed making a decision until this meeting. He introduced Jade Warren from Children's Services who explained her role.

The Chairman outlined the Council's concerns regarding the proposed NKYG.

- 1) The biggest concerns were surrounding liability and who would be responsible if an accident were to happen. Jade Warren explained that it would be the responsibility of NKYG, as they would have to have public liability insurance.
- 2) Adequate fire precautions and risk assessments would need to be completed.
- 3) Insurance cover –Jade explained that there was insurance cover for Youth Clubs-usually the cost was approx. £250 p/a
- 4) CRB checks-volunteers need at this moment to have CRB clearance. Jade Warren explained that NKDC were an umbrella organization and were able to process CRB applications. A charge of £4 per application would be charged.
- 5) A question regarding regulation of Youth Clubs was asked and Jade explained that NKDC did not regulate Youth Clubs.
- 6) The upkeep and maintenance of the hall was also raised as an issue –the Parish Council need assurances that the structure would be kept in good order.
- 7) Funding issues were also a concern-Mr Lamb assured the Council that the group would be self-funding as the young people were keen and enthusiastic about the project.
- 8) Mr Lamb also explained that due to his business contacts he had access to funding, materials etc.
- 9) Mr Lamb explained that before the project started he was looking for £2,000-£5,000. This would ensure running costs could be met,
- 10) Jade Warren explained that it would be best to adhere to Ofsted guidelines regarding age range of young people which were 8 upwards.

The Chairman asked the Councillors if they had any concerns regarding the proposed Youth Group.

Cllr L Mayhew questioned the use of the existing hall and why it was necessary to have a separate venue for the Youth Club. Mr Lamb explained that the young people would prefer their own space. Discussion regarding the possible segregation this would cause.

The other issue raised by Cllr Mayhew was the possible competition between the two venues.

Cllr Panton raised a concern regarding the size of the unit. He felt that the whole unit was too big and only a proportion of the unit should be used. Mr Lamb didn't feel that this would be a problem.

Cllr J Dring asked Mr Lamb why he could not get a group up and running with the present village hall so that the village could see that the idea was getting off the ground and then transfer to the new location when approved. Mr Lamb replied that he preferred to start in the new venue as he felt that the youth wouldn't be able to do everything they wanted and would be disillusioned.

District Councillor Powell had concerns about the safety of youngsters-Jade said that she would be available to help formulate a policy. She also mentioned that a volunteer policy should be in place. Mr Lamb said he was happy to meet with Jade to discuss this.

Cllr Mayhew congratulated Mr Lamb on his enthusiasm, but re-iterated her concerns that the new Village Hall is used and community cohesion is maintained.

Cllr Dring said that volunteers were not always reliable and this could be an issue when trying to staff the Youth Group.

The Chairman mentioned his concerns at competition for funding as the Village Hall was not complete.

The Parish Council will meet next Wednesday 11th April and a decision will be made. The Chairman will need to brief the rest of the Council. A closed meeting will be held between 7.00 p.m. and 7.30 p.m.

Meeting closed at 8.20 p.m.