

## **MINUTES OF THE NOTHRA COMMITTEE MEETING held in the Village Hall on 7 MARCH 2011 commencing at 8pm**

**Attendees:** Michael Maddox, Robert Murdoch, Tony Hewlett, Roger Ponsford, Simon Pearce, Sonja Angel

**Also in Attendance:** Jonathan Reddin (Chairman of NML), Rajen Shah, David Trotman, Mark Hetherington, Rosemary Banks, Roz Warren, Joe Koch

**Apologies for Absence:** Mark Goddard (Vice Chairman NEAR), Sharon Smart, Anne Odams

### **NML PLANS AND LIAISON WITH NOTHRA –NML Chairman**

Jonathan Reddin reported that NML is now the responsibility of the recently elected resident Directors of NML, although the settlement and transfer of property has still to be effected. The Board's priorities for 2011 are to stabilise the finances of NML, which includes collecting the historic debt, and reviewing the 2011 budget with a view to reducing costs by 15-20%.

JR sees NML as controller of the Netherne 'business' with overall financial management of the village. He sees NOTHRA's role as identifying and communicating the needs of the village community to NML. He suggested that NOTHRA prepares a 5-year village development plan, covering sustainability, asset utilization, community cohesion and community projects. Ideally short term projects would not be costly, whilst NML put the finances on a sound footing. He also asked that residents with appropriate skills, and willing to assist the NML management, be identified.

JR proposed that he meet with NOTHRA on a quarterly basis, although there may be other appropriate times too.

### **DEVELOPING THE VILLAGE**

MM agreed to resurrect Nothra's previous thinking on developing a sustainable community as the basis for a new village plan.

The Village Hall is now ready for use. NML are in discussions with Bladerunner with a view to them providing the administration- MM is coordinating the use of the hall for the time being. It is important to quickly encourage groups to make use of the hall. MM will contact people who in the past have shown interest in providing services such as a pre-school, youth club, mothers and toddlers, etc. SP was also asked if he could provide contact details of people who had shown interest in running clubs in response to past questionnaires sent around the village. There is a small budget available for equipment, but it is expected that groups wishing to use the facility will take some responsibility for providing equipment. There will be different levels of charges for use of the hall, depending on who is hiring it. It is intended to keep charges low where the residents are benefiting directly from it's use. MM will draft a flyer publishing the village hall for hand delivery, email and [www.nman.co.uk](http://www.nman.co.uk)

### **NOTHRA AND NEAR MERGER**

It was reported that Netherne Events and Recreation Group (NEAR) was without a Chairman and was experiencing difficulty in functioning due to lack of support. NEAR members suggested that it merge with NoTHRA. It was broadly agreed by the NOTHRA committee that a merger would strengthen the combined efforts to develop community spirit. SA agreed to arrange for the NEAR membership to consider a merger, having discussed the requirements of the NEAR constitution with Michael Lee ( NEAR Treasurer).

## **2011 EVENTS PROGRAMME**

Ideas and suggestions needed. Hopefully a summer Fun Day/Village Picnic, Opera in the Park, Village Market, Quiz nights etc. Volunteer helpers needed to be identified. (Flyer to include this matter).

It was suggested that an early 'Open Day' event at the Village Hall be held to re-generate community interest, and to promote the Village hall. A date was set for Saturday 23 April. Another meeting would be arranged to discuss the format of this event.

## **COMMUNITY TRANSPORT**

The proposal for purchase of a Community Bus has been given the go ahead by NML, depending on a more detailed budget showing financial viability and how it will be managed. It must be operated at no cost to NML. MM and TH will get together to discuss this detail. MM put out a request for anyone who has an interest in the transport for the village to come forward and help with the management.

## **VILLAGE CLEANLINESS**

MM and SA will set a Sunday morning date for a litter pick, and promote it along with the Village Hall Open Day. Late Note . Sunday 20 March 1030 am

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

It was agreed that NOTHRA should have a website separate to www.nman. Mark Hetherington kindly agreed to help develop a NOTHRA site. Late note: it has been established that netherne.co.uk can be transferred to Nothra by the current owner- Chris.

Ways of communicating with residents was discussed. It seems that developing an efficient email system would be a way forward, although other methods, such as posters would need to be used too.

MM will ask John Banks to install the notice board on the village green. .

**DATE FOR NEXT MEETING:- April 6<sup>th</sup> 8pm Village Hall**