

## HAVERSHAM SOCIAL & COMMUNITY CENTRE

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

MONDAY, 9th MARCH

7.30pm at the Social Centre

*Your views and opinions on the Social Centre's activities are valued and greater participation from residents would be very welcome. Please do come along.*

#### AGENDA

1. Confirm Minutes of last AGM + matters arising
2. Chairman's Report for 2019/20 (below and overleaf)
3. Comments on the Chairman's Report
4. Treasurer's Report for 2019/20
5. What is needed for the Social Centre in 2020/21—general discussion
6. Election of new committee for 2020/21
7. Appointment of Auditor
8. Any other business

#### CHAIR'S REPORT 2018-19

We have been able to organise our usual calendar of events this year. The maintenance of the building has also been a priority.

The centre is used by the committee and by the Parish Council for their monthly meetings. Yoga takes place on Tuesday evenings, Fun Bunch met monthly on the second Friday of the month at the start of the year but has now been discontinued. Jubilee Club meet monthly in the afternoon on the second Wednesday of the month. Tai Chi meet monthly on the second Saturday of each month. We now have a second Tai Chi group who meet on a semi-regular basis. The Truckers are no longer a user group as they found the new conditions in the car park difficult to work around. A new user group started in September - it is a training session for FC Castlethorpe under 9's girls. The centre continues to be used for birthday parties. The school use our section of the hall for school lunches.

We have been very fortunate this year to have new sliding doors put in, courtesy of the Leisure Services Department of MKC. This will be of benefit to the school and to the Social Centre. The doors are better sound-proofed than the old doors. They are also more secure – the school can now make sure that no-one can enter from the Social Centre annexe whilst the school is in session. This satisfies the needs of OFSTED on safe guarding of children.

In the coming year we are hoping to do some refurbishment of the building. Painting the outside walls and replacing the canopy between the back door and the storage garages. Inside also needs some redecoration. Any handy men/women out there????!!!

#### EVENTS

We held our second Curry & Quiz night at the beginning of March and it was a very enjoyable evening. We are doing the same this year; Lesley & Harvey would welcome ideas for quiz rounds.

We followed this with our Easter Bingo which hopefully was enjoyed by all who came. We crowned Trinity Irving as our May Queen this year. Louise Reid stepped in and organised the rehearsals with guidance from Kim Irving. It was the first time that we had held the event in the recreation ground and it was a learning curve for all of us.

The Fete was held at the beginning of June and the weather could not have been worse. Strong winds and rain meant that we had to place all the stalls inside. We had pleaded for extra help in putting up marquees etc and in the event we had to turn the helpers away, but it was good to see that people were willing to help. Fortunately, it cleared up in the afternoon and some of the games could be placed outside. However, the strong winds meant we could not erect the Bouncy Castle or use the Zorb balls. This was unfortunate as it meant not only did we lose on the hire money but also on the extra insurance we had to take out. Thank you to all those who turned up and supported us. There were lots of stalls but the reptiles were the main attraction.

The Annual Cricket Match, which we help to support, was unable to be held this year for family reasons.

The Seniors' Tea was held in August and we were entertained with some Bollywood Dancing and we even took part. Admittedly some were sitting down, but we all enjoyed it very much. So much so that we put on a Bollywood dance afternoon for the youngsters of the Village in the October half term but it was not well supported. We may try again if there is a demand.

The Village Show was held on the first Saturday in September. I am always amazed at the amount of talent that is out there. We had a number of new entrants who went on to win prizes, which is always very pleasing. It makes all the preparation worthwhile.

The Firework Display in November had to be postponed a day because of bad weather but we had a reasonable crowd who came to watch. The display was very good as always and many thanks to Colin Butler and his team who manage the display. This is the last year that Colin will be doing the display so it is uncertain if we will have one in 2020. Colin is happy to train up a team but we will have to see if we have enough volunteers. A number of people have expressed an interest. We did not make such a big loss on the event as we did in 2018 but we cannot continue to lose money on these events. We have always tried to break-even on the Firework display but have failed to do so for the past 2 years.

Our Christmas Bingo was held at the end of November; it wasn't very well attended but we hope that those who came enjoyed themselves.

The Children's Christmas party at the beginning of December saw 36 children responding to our invitation which was less than in previous years. A disco and lots of different games and activities helped to keep the children entertained. The event was organised this year by Holly Sains, her team of helpers did a grand job keeping the children absorbed and entertained in their various activities. Father Christmas crowned the afternoon by arriving and giving out gifts. He was helped by his elves and Natalie Irving who organised the gifts.

We had a wreath-making workshop at the beginning of December this was well supported and we have been asked if we will do the same next year.

I will repeat what I said last year: all these activities take a lot of planning and hard work, and we are a small committee. We operate on a sub-committee basis and ideally different people are responsible for each event. However, with so few of us, it is not always possible to spread the load as evenly as we would like. The community owe the committee members a lot for their hard work and dedication.

The committee, as always, has been a great support to me through the year and I would like to take this opportunity to thank them. Our Treasurer, Rachel Paton, is standing down this year and we are very grateful to her for continuing in this role for many years. Natalie Irving is going to take on the role and has been working in tandem with Rachel for the past two months. Rachel will be sadly missed but she has promised to continue to support us. Many thanks to Natalie for coming to the rescue; I am sure she will do a good job. I wish to thank the rest of the committee for their support - Kim Irving our Bookings Secretary, Holly Sains, Louise Reid, Fiona Viney and our user group representatives, Lesley Gilbert (Jubilee Club) and Barry Clift (Parish Council). Sadly, I have to report that our long-serving committee member, Pat Brightman, is having to stand down from the committee. She has been a faithful supporter of the Social Centre for many years and her wealth of knowledge will be sorely missed. We hope her health will improve soon.

Our meeting minutes are sent to Pat Smith at Leisure Services MKC, Andrew Geary MKC and to Haver-sham School. I meet with the Head on a regular basis. Again, I have to repeat myself in saying that the committee are also very lucky in having the support of their family members, what would we do without them?

### **THE FUTURE**

I make my usual plea for more committee members. We need more people on the committee; it really need not be an onerous task. We meet once a month and the full committee meetings only last one hour. As I have said many times before, new people mean new ideas and new impetus. Your Social Centre needs you. I am getting older and so are many of the committee; we need you desperately

**Please come along to the AGM. If you are unable to volunteer for the committee, at least you can let us know if we are providing what you want. It would be even better if you could join the committee!!!! We are a friendly bunch and it is a great way to meet people.**