

CHARITIES COMMITTEE

**Meeting held in the Committee Room, Council Offices, Urban Road,
Kirkby-in-Ashfield,**

on Tuesday, 19th October, 2010 at 6.00 p.m.

Present: Councillor A. Brown, in the Chair;
Councillors L.J. Cooper, D.M. Parker, R.J. Sears-Piccavey,
and Mrs. M. Thorpe.

Officers Present: Mrs. L. Cain, Mrs. R. Dennis, M. Kirk and P. Talbot.

CC3.1 Declarations of Interest by Members and Officers

Councillor Mrs. M. Thorpe declared a personal interest in respect of agenda item 4 (Teversal Community Centre and Recreation Ground Trust ["Teversal Grange"] Charity Number 522310). Her interest arose from the fact that her spouse currently holds the position of co-opted member on the Teversal Grange Advisory Committee.

CC3.2 Minutes

RESOLVED

that the minutes of the meeting of the Charities Committee held on 16th February, 2010, be taken as read and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

CC3.3 Teversal Community Centre and Recreation Ground Trust Charity Number 522310

In accordance with the Local Government Act 1972, the Code of Conduct and the Council's Constitution, Councillor Mrs. M. Thorpe had previously declared a personal interest in respect of this item. Her interest was such that she remained in the meeting and took part in the discussion and voting thereon.

The Strategic Projects and Trust Development Manager presented the report and firstly outlined the history of the Teversal Community Centre and Recreation Ground Trust for the benefit of new Committee Members. He highlighted the main areas of progress in relation to the following:-

Users Rights and Responsibility Agreements(URRA);
Teversal Trail Visitors' Centre;
Teversal Trust Facilities Group Constitution;
Teversal Grange Advisory Committee Minutes.

With regard to the Teversal Grange Country Inn, the Council's Estates Manager

outlined the main considerations for renewing the lease, the current trading position and the potential longer term problems for the Trust should the current lessees vacate the property leaving no income for the Trust to further its charitable objectives. A debate ensued whereby Members, amongst other things, considered the recommendations for the terms of the lease proffered by the Teversal Grange Advisory Committee.

(At this point in the discussion, Councillor L.J. Cooper entered the meeting at 6.20 p.m. At 6.50 p.m. he took the opportunity to declare a personal interest in relation to the matter under consideration as he was known to the current landlord/manager of the Country Inn. However his interest was such that he stayed in the meeting and took part in the discussion and voting thereon).

(During consideration of this item, Councillor D.M. Parker left the room at 6.50 p.m. and returned to the meeting at 6.55 p.m.)

The Strategic Projects and Trust Development Manager then concluded the presentation by advising the Committee on the current situation surrounding the 'Coal Garden', originally installed by the Council in the late 1990's and the recommendations for securing ongoing maintenance, or otherwise, of the site.

Members considered all alternative options in relation to the terms and conditions of the new lease and the ongoing maintenance arrangements for the coal garden.

RESOLVED that

- (a) progress regarding the signing of the Users Rights and Responsibility Agreements (URRA's) with relevant groups, be noted and approved;
- (b) progress regarding the transfer of the Teversal Trails Visitors' Centre to the Trust, be noted and approved;
- (c) progress in relation to discussions with the Charity Commission regarding the draft Constitution, be noted and approved;
- (d) the minutes of the meetings of the Teversal Grange Advisory Committee held on Wednesday 24th March 2010, Wednesday 19th May 2010, 7th July 2010 and 22nd September 2010 and the minutes of the annual general meeting of the Teversal Grange Advisory Committee held on Wednesday 7th July 2010, be noted;
- (e) the Estates Manager, in consultation with the Head of Community and Economic Promotion, be authorised to proceed with the renegotiation of the lease (having full discretion in relation to agreeing the rental income) taking into account the following:-
 - the lease to be for a period of 10 years maximum;
 - the cost of the lease to be reviewed annually for the first five years of the lease;
 - the lease to include some responsibility for the repair and maintenance of the shared car park;
- (f) the cost of maintenance of the coal garden be borne by Ashfield District Council and included as part of the recharges for the management of the Trust for which

the Trustee, Ashfield District Council, can currently claim a maximum of 25% of the Trust's income.

Reason:

To ensure relevant Charity Law is complied with. To ensure the Charity is efficiently and effectively managed in furtherance of the Charity's purposes.

The meeting closed at 7.17 p.m.

Chairman.