

Committee Matters

Leadership of the new worship group was discussed and Claire Guillot was proposed by the chair. The Committee unanimously endorsed the proposal and Claire was duly appointed as the worship group leader. The terms of reference statement agreed at the last meeting will be reviewed by Claire and a final version submitted to the committee for approval at the next meeting.

Centre Manager

The Autumn months have been very busy with visits by a variety of outside groups as well as the communities own programme. Both harvest and tree hugging working weekends were well attended and productive. There was a week of fascinating films followed at the weekend by fantastic fireworks, where 30 visitors from the village joined the community for the evenings entertainment. The winter watch weekend was a great success. Numbers were small, due to an advertising glitch, but several of the visitors have applied to become members and will be running another weekend next year (Mon 9-Thurs 12 Nov 2009). The new Bradwell Buildings sub-Committee has had its first meeting (chaired by Matthew Dell) and will work closely with the team pursuing the EEDA funding bid in compiling plans for new "green" accommodation at the centre.

Trustees

Jan Marshall reported that both Bradwell and Burton Bradstock centres have reported good, busy summer seasons, although they are still running in deficit compared to the budget. David explained that, though this year has seen increased usage of the centres at peak times, it is still proving difficult to fill the centre during weekdays in the Autumn and Winter, and that running sessions at these times incurs increased cost in terms of heat and light. Asked what practical steps we can take to change this situation, he proposed that the committee try to identify groups that he can contact and arrange to give a presentation to about Othona.

Programme Planning

Robert was happy to report that the 2009 programme is now ready to be sent out and is looking good both in content and appearance (thanks to Claire). David mentioned that he has had a lot of positive response to the flyer sent out last month and is already taking bookings for next year, so book now to avoid disappointment!

Volunteering

Kate distributed copies of the new Bradwell Guide and a draft of the Volunteer's Handbook. This makes the guide substantially thinner and thus more likely to be of use to those new to the community.

Maintenance

The Autumn working weekends have been productive and some of the urgent outstanding maintenance jobs have been completed.

Fund Raising

Kate has been exploring a source of funding for improvements to infrastructure which is available to organisations that provide facilities for social care groups. She believes that Othona qualifies on this basis and that it may be possible to secure a sum sufficient to provide moveable partitions and soundproofing in the main hall.

Chris Jones (Bradwell Committee Chair)