



**SAVE OLD SCHOOL:
Group Meeting in the Rose & Crown, Ivinghoe,
5th September 2011 at 8.00pm**

PRESENT:

Carol Tarrant	Les Laing
Sandie Emerson	Anne Eastwood
Tessa Smith	Haley Wesley
Sue Nicholls	Liz Smith
Moira Heggarty	Bob Corn
Alex Wynne	

APOLOGIES: Owen Wynne
Lukas McCormack
Martin McCormack
Ben Huxley
Emma Maier
Jane Custance
John Wallis
Jeannette Wallis
Sylvia Simmonds

Carol welcomed everyone to the meeting, which had been called to further discuss proposals in connection with the Old School Building in the centre of Ivinghoe, and its possible future for the community.

1.0 Café Proposals: Hayley Wesley and Liz Smith (as 'Curiositea'), and Tessa Smith and Sue Nicholls (as 'Ivinghomec') were present to put their respective and it turned out very enticing - proposals for creating a presence in the Old School Building, the meeting noting that – however attractive either or both proposals – nothing could yet proceed since the 'Old School' Business Plan had yet to be presented (or approved!) by Bucks County Council:

1.1 Hayley and Liz presented their proposals – they had researched the need for a Café in the village, particularly in the light of the recent closure of a different Café business in the village; they had previously had a proposal for a Café in 17 High Street, Ivinghoe, but this had fallen through at least signing stage due to a business partner deciding not to proceed. They relish the 'Community' feel for the new Café, and with taking on the remit of key-holder, and with extended hours to perhaps take in the suggested 'Youth Café', as well as direction towards elderly folk in the Community. They had researched perhaps providing a sandwich service to the Business Park in Pitstone, and mention was made of selling arts and crafts alongside the Café business; Children's Parties, Mum's and Toddlers, After School Clubs, etc., are also part of their vision. Finance for their proposal is available – covering rent, 'streamline' card machine; they are anticipating a deli-counter, a server, micro-wave cooking – both Hayley and Liz are registered with AVDC for preparing food at home, although they also propose preparing food on the premises.

1.2 Tessa and Sue presented their proposals – they had previously submitted proposals to the Parish Council for a Cookery School with a

'Bistro' Café on the side. There is enthusiasm for a Cookery School in the village, and the 'Ivinghomec' Business was launched recently at Pitstone Hall – Tessa and Sue have approached Brookmead School to offer the facility, and are starting an 'After School Cookery Club' this next month, initially based in the Hall at Pitstone. Since the closure of the Village Café, they can see the Community Café as an attractive adjunct to the Cookery School, their hours of opening being 9.00 – 5.30. Initially they had seen the 'Big' room as being the Cookery School, but would perhaps prefer the smaller room which has water supply, and use the big room as the Café – using fold-away tables. The Café and the Ivinghomec Businesses they felt would be interdependent initially, and they would like to be flexible on rent, perhaps taking a year's lease to start, with a nine year lease later – although they understand that until the County Council have considered the submitted 'SOS Group' Business Plan, no arrangements can firmly be discussed. They could foresee 'Pre-Theatre' Dinners as part of their offer, although they felt there might be security issues if a 'Youth Café' were to be part of the proposals; they would be happy to act as key-holders

Both 'Curiositea' and 'Ivinghomec' Groups are happy with the possibly long-term nature of negotiations with the County Council, and discussions took place about the long-term sustainability of any business proposals within the Old School Community initiative. [Both Groups to send their written proposals to Carol for reference in the forthcoming Old School Group's Business Plan.](#)

2.0 Les reported that he had been in touch with the organisation holding Church School records : Evidently the School Building Deeds were handed back to the Brownlow family on 1st April 2011 – apparently Lady Adelaide had significant interest in the Building, although there was some reluctance to give detail to Les. Apparently Paul Getty had acquired a lot of the documents – Hansard records for the House of Lords will be source of further information if anyone has the enthusiasm to carry out the research! [Les suggested that further research could be carried out in concert with Lukas](#), although Carol suggested initial contact through Corral, as Lukas shares his mother's email address, and since Lukas's School Term had now started.

Carol reported that further history research had been undertaken briefly by she and Moira in the Aylesbury Archives, where illegalities in the will of the Lady Adelaide Chetwynd – Talbot, Countess of Brownlow, married name of Cust, had been revealed. These facts are in need of further explanation via Hansard also, because the situation on the handing over of the building to the County in 1906, first suggested by Earl Brownlow in 1903, as discovered by Lucas from a Parish magazine of 1903 recently, thus ignoring the believed bequest, deserves some explanation to the village now. [It is the legal reference to this alteration of intention that we need.](#)

3.0 Constitution: – noted that [Les, John and Carol are now meeting on 7th September to make the final draft of a Constitution](#) for the Group after their previous discussions and drafts.

4.0 Media: Carol reported that the Bucks Herald had carried two articles referencing the SOS Group, recently and also three local Parish magazines were being

supportive in carrying an article both May and August, the latest styled just to keep the interest going as [we welcome this becoming a whole community project](#).

- 5.0 Local Clubs and Societies:** Carol noted that [representatives from Local Clubs and Societies are very welcome onto this Steering Group](#). The joint Clubs and societies letter with the Library is now very delayed, so we need to share our intentions with the other groups within our wider community and this method would help them to understand our intentions and future provision.
- 6.0 Group Structure:** Carol asked [everyone to have a look at the types of Social Enterprise](#), she has sent out as attachments for them to research.....so that a final joint decision can be made as to the structure of this group and its legal framework, and give their decisions as feedback to her by the next meeting on 12th September.
- 7.0 Community Asset Transfer:** Carol had sent around information to the Group re-Bucks County Council's take on Community Asset Transfer – she suggested further information could be obtained through www.ATU.org.uk – could everyone have a look at information available? Section 4.2 of the Bucks County Council's document is the relevant section – Carol will send it around – and part 8.0 of the document is important. Alex stressed her view that it is important that all future costs are present and considered in our Business Plan – this including whatever costs are associated with the Community Asset Transfer; we do need to have full information as to what lease terms would be offered.....and this is one aspect of the help we are enlisting from Stephanie Moffat of AVDC who will liaise with Jackie Wesley of BCC.
- 8.0 Public Liability Insurance:** Noted that the Town Hall Committee's Insurance Cover is not able to be extended to cover the proposed 'Public Event' to display proposals to the village – [Carol to now approach Graham Holland of Ivinghoe Entertainments](#) to possibly fund the Public Liability Insurance and suggested Banner to be displayed on the Old School railings.
- 9.0 Stephanie Moffat of AVDC:** Noted that Stephanie is offering possible AVDC support to our proposals, the suggestion being that she comes to a meeting – could [Group members give Carol their suggestions of other help needed at this point](#), so that Stephanie could be briefed before she attends a meeting? Community Chest and five other areas of possible funding were discussed. (NOTE: After the meeting, Carol and Stephanie arranged to meet at 6.00pm on 12th September 2011, with the possibility of Stephanie briefly joining us at 8.00pm).
- 10.0 Areas of Group Responsibility:** Carol suggested that the [Group form three sub-committees](#) – to get the all important actions covered quickly but deeply, before our October 21st deadline. a) Business Plan, b) Grant Applications, and c) Group Actions – Exhibition Event, Questionnaire analysis, Graphics, media and awareness etc. The meeting briefly talked this through, but apart from Sandie requesting to join in the Business Plan sub-comm, Anne requesting Group Actions sub-comm, and Les reminding us that he was looking at the Constitution with John and Carol, no firm decisions were made. Les suggested that Carol contact Lorna Harvey (who had previously been Parish Clerk), since she might be able to

contribute from her own experience – Carol said Lorna has been a great help already over the phone, and that she has left people free to step forward to join in this group, but will so contact Lorna and ask. This will be a [good time to co-opt on more volunteers from the village to cover these tasks](#) as unfilled absences due quite naturally to well deserved booked holidays endangers our necessary momentum to meet our deadlines.

11.0 Questionnaire: Sandie had prepared the Questionnaire as agreed, liaising with Carol and Bob who had also printed them off, and Sylvia had prepared a distribution matrix - Carol handed the Questionnaires in 'Street Bundles' to members for their distribution; [hopefully, the wider group can assist with collection, since that will take rather more time.](#)

12.0 Carol thanked all for their continued generous giving of their time.

Next Meeting: 12th September 2011 at 8.00pm, Rose & Crown, Ivinghoe – maybe retiring to Wellcroft Cottage - Sandie, Les, John and Jeanette all offering apology for non-attendance since they will all be away.

