

HANGER FARM ARTS CENTRE CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Hanger Farm Arts Centre Consultative Committee held at the Hanger Farm Arts Centre at 7.00 p.m. on Wednesday 5 December 2007

PRESENT: Councillor L.E. Harris – Chairman
Councillors J.M. Sawyer and A. Weeks (representing Hampshire County Council)
Mr D. Thomas, Assistant Principal Skills, Totton College
Mr T. Malcolm, Totton College
Harriet Webb Forest Arts Centre representing Hampshire County Council
Town Clerk, Hanger Farm Arts Centre Co-ordinator, Hanger Farm Arts Centre
Programmes Co-ordinator and the Committee Manager

CHAIRMAN It was proposed by Councillor A. Weeks seconded by Councillor J.M. Sawyer and unanimously agreed that Councillor L.E. Harris be Chairman of the Committee.

APOLOGIES Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Mrs D.M. Brooks and Mrs P. M. Hibbert - representing Totton and Eling Town Council.

MANAGEMENT REPORT The Committee considered the Management Report from the Centre Co-ordinator and discussion took place on various aspects. It was thought that it would be an advantage to advertise the costs of hiring the various parts of the Arts Centre on the web site. Totton College's use of the Centre and hiring to the Community was also discussed. The College would like to explore the possibility of hiring to business for conferences. There was an increasing number of enquiries for weddings, parties etc but there was a clause in the lease forbidding such bookings. It was noted that there was a need to be aware of "care of the building". Amenities Committee would be asked to look at the options available and also to conduct a survey of the other Community Buildings to see how many weddings they now have bookings for and the charges for such events. The current hire charges at the Arts Centre was £20 per hour for the meeting room and £40 per hour for the theatre. It was confirmed that the Arts Centre was fully licensed. In connection with audience development, contact with local schools should be organised, some contact is in place with flyers from the Centre going out in the children's book bags. The need to be part of the extended schools programme was expressed.

CURRENT PROGRAMME AND FUTURE FUNDING The current programme was a very creative programme. As far as funding was concerned a number of targets were in place. Many were project driven. A number of possibilities were being investigated and the need to be part of the Hampshire County Council Community Schemes was discussed. Hanger Farm Arts Centre was not a Revenue Funding Organisation unlike many others. More should be made of such organisations as Hog the Limelight. Councillors A Weeks and D Harrison had a limited County Council funds. The question was raised as to whether there was an opportunity to look at the prospect of including the Waterside funding. Signage to the Centre was not very clear, also signage on the footpath needed investigating. The Centre needed all age groups to come through the door. The programmes were now more extensive than

was originally envisaged and popularity of events was very unpredictable from year to year. The next "Local News" was to include an article on the Centre with a possible offer attached. The possibility of "Volunteer Friends Organisation at Hanger Farm" was also discussed.

MAINTENANCE ITEMS There was still a need for "add on" to the AC units for cold air and the soundproof doors again had a problem with dropping and also with the fire exit doors. Locking the access gate late at night could sometimes be daunting when groups of youths were around. The question of the possibility of an electric gate was raised, although this was not thought viable as when the new road is constructed a new entrance would be made from the road. The ACSO's would be asked to attend, when there were on duty, at the end of the evening to support the staff. There was a problem with getting the bulbs for the lights in the gallery as these had to be obtained from the contractor of the original installation.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING The date of the next meeting of the Hanger Farm Arts Centre Consultative Committee has been arranged for Tuesday 10 June 2008.

Meeting closed at 8.30 p.m.