



Whippingham Community Association, 8 Victoria & Albert Cottages
Beatrice Avenue, Whippingham, Isle of Wight

20th July 2009

Dear Resident,

The Whippingham Community Association (WCA) would like to thank you for attending the meeting at the Hall on 9th July. Altogether there were 60 people in attendance and it was a useful opportunity to share ideas and suggestions regarding the Hall and its future. Membership of the WCA is free and open to all residents of Whippingham and your views and wishes are important. Broadly they were:

1. There was unanimous agreement that the community should work to ensure the Hall remains a community asset and seek a long-term lease from the IW Council. This response followed a presentation about the Hall and a chance to share ideas in discussion groups,
2. A significant majority of you agreed that the Hall should remain in the control of the WCA as its charitable status would allow it to apply to a wider range of funding bodies than our Parish Council which is a statutory body.
3. There was wide agreement that the WCA and the Parish Council should work together to achieve these goals and the new Clerk to the Parish Council, Val Taylor, supported this view and offered her help. Several of you have asked to join the Management Committee of the WCA.
4. The Committee listened to suggestions that meetings be arranged in the early evening so that people finishing work around 5.30 pm could attend and a new start time of 7.00 pm will be tried.
5. A number of people returned their contact forms with suggestions concerning "social activities" at the Hall and these people will be contacted separately.
6. Hirings at the Hall have contracted slightly over the last couple of years, due in part to the effects of the "credit crunch" on small groups, so the Committee agree with the view that there is a need to improve our marketing to a wider public and will look at ways to achieve this. The new website; www.whippingham.org.uk could be one of the ways but care must be taken not to exclude people who are not connected to the internet.

Once again the Committee would like to say thanks for the display of support and remind people that the next meeting will be the AGM of the WCA on Thursday, September 10th at 7.00 pm in the Community Hall. We hope you will be able to attend.

Mrs Audrey Thorne
Chair, Whippingham Community Association