

NOTES OF THE MEETING WITH ELDC COUNCILLORS TO DISCUSS THE PROJECT IN GENERAL AND APPLYING TO KEEP THE HALL OPEN UNTIL THE BUSINESS PLAN IS FINALISED. TOWN HALL 20TH Jan 2009

Present . W Aron, Cllr F Martin, Cllr S Newton, Cllr S Campbell Wardman, Cllr S Avison.

R Fisher, M Traves, J Benton, G & M O'Neill Shirley (U3A)

1. WA gave a brief of the project so far for CSA he handed over documentation for SA to look at post meeting.
2. CFM explained the use of the call in procedure and explained its limited use and the fact that it may delay any decision to consider the granting of a licence to run the hall in the interim period it was decided by WA to let the attempt to keep the hall open under licence take priority.
3. Concern was expressed that the closure end of Jan would lose more hirers making it difficult to restart the customer base this was the main reason for applying for the licence.
4. WA explained the Development Trust Association in the role of the project as it now appears they have got the contract to finalise the business plan.
5. GON expressed deep concerns about the way ELDC have handled this as it appears to be against all levels of Government policy, he also made it clear that there was a lot of anger in the town over this issue and the hall should have been kept open anyway. MT expressed the negativity being felt in the community about the hall being closed. GON asked who had made the decision to close the hall CFM said it was made at an informal executive brief but could find no record in the minutes of the meetings GON question if that was a legal or a democratic decision.
6. CSN stated that they had put most of the comments to the executive board but that it made no difference. CFM said that they would try to get a meeting with J Frogget and the portfolio holders to put the licence idea forward. CFM said they had also tried to make the case for R bell to take over the hall in the interim but had meet with no success.

M O'Neill Secretary