

TENTERDEN TOWN COUNCIL – EXTERNAL COMMITTEE

CINEMA FOCUS GROUP

MINUTES OF A MEETING ON 21ST SEPTEMBER 2017

Present: Cllr. Sue Ferguson, Cllr. Rory Knight, Cllr. Mike Carter, Claire Gilbert (Town Council), Chris Head, Bob Somerscales, Kimberley Trow, Vicky Morgan, Wilfred Watters, Tom Evans, Seren Welch, Fran Sharp, Robert Maltby, Nic Phillips, Lindsay Phillips, Elaine Mahoney.

1. **Apologies for Absence.** Carol Parkin, Gill Topley and Rob Cowan.
2. **Minutes.** Tom Evans highlighted the inaccuracies in minute 8.2 which should have read: "Tom Evans reported that cinemas must be DCI compliant and almost all cinemas are now digital and DCI compliant. Any screen wanting to show studio films on general release must be DCI compliant, which have stringent - projector spec, encryption etc - that considerably increase the cost of technology. Film clubs, societies, clubs, schools etc that do not show studio films but project from a BluRay disc from example can use cheaper technology." The minutes would be duly revised.
3. **Matters Arising.** None.
4. **Election of Chair.** The Group elected Cllr. Sue Ferguson as Chair of the Cinema Focus Group.
5. **Update and review of all possible venues**
 - 5.1 Sue Ferguson suggested that in order to avoid discussions not progressing, small groups should be formed to investigate each possible venue and report back. The following venues were put forward:

Rear of the Woolpack – brand new build
Tenterden Club – ceiling would need to be heightened
The Pebbles – rear extension required
Glebe Hall – new build on site and possibly field

The size of the buildings required would need to be clarified and Mike Carter agreed to email Claire Gilbert the information for circulation to the Group. Rory Knight suggested that timelines also be drawn up for the sub-groups to work to.

The following sub-groups were agreed:

Woolpack – Mike Carter, Rob Cowan, Seren Welch & Tom Evans

Tenterden Club – Sue Ferguson, Fran Sharp, Chris Head, Elaine Mahoney and Bob Somerscales.

The Pebbles – this was put on hold due to the current lease to White Stuff until 2021. However, Claire reported that an architect had said it could be a viable with an extension at the rear and would find out the details of this information from the Town Clerk.

Glebe Hall - it was agreed that further discussions were needed with Canon Lindsay Hammond on the viability.

- 5.2 Mike reported that Enterprise Inns had been in touch and were waiting for the Group to produce drawings for them to consider. Mike also reported that Rob Cowan had said he would be happy to draw up some basic plans.
- 5.3 Tom Evans agreed to draw up a set of questions for each sub-group to investigate which would be circulated for comments.
- 5.4 Seren Welch reported that she had managed to obtain information on Kino in East Sussex which details the project plan and would send it to Claire for circulation. It was suggested that Abigail Page at Gibbons Mannington (Chartered Accountants) might be able to provide information regarding the finances of the project and Mike agreed to liaise with her.
- 5.5 It was reported that Potters Home Digital has ideas for a cinema and would be happy to provide the group with a demonstration at their shop. It was agreed the Sue would liaise with Alex at Potters and try and organise the demo for about three weeks time.

6. Any Other Business.

Sue reported that she had a copy of the Scottish Report which contained questions if we needed to ask the public for their views on the cinema provision. However, the Lipton Group had already covered this. Sue also had a copy of the Cronshaw Report and the Group discussed the idea of having events nights, particularly with regard to showing opera. Seren reported that the Arts Council would heavily subsidise showings of opera.

7. Date of Next Meeting. To be confirmed.