



POND HALL ACTION GROUP

NEWSLETTER NO 2

AUGUST 1995

Hello again! and welcome to any new residents or readers who may be in the process of catching up on events.

So much has happened since the last newsletter that only someone who has been hibernating will not be aware of the very high profile that has been achieved all over East Lothian and beyond.

ELDC RESOLUTION - 20TH JUNE 1995

The "East Lothian News" Report on 23rd June 1995 on E.L.D.C.'s decision to demolish the Pond Hall came as a real bombshell to everyone in Cockenzie and Port Seton. The need for urgency was recognised and so the open meeting on 4th July was organised.

SUPPORT RALLY - A NIGHT TO REMEMBER!

Any doubts about how united the community was and their strength of feeling was completely dispelled on Tuesday evening, the 4th July. It was standing room only with many people having to go home, as they were unable to get in.

This did not go unnoticed by a special guest, the Earl of Wemyss, who kindly accepted an invitation to attend. His presence was very much appreciated.

Also in attendance was Regional Councillor, Mr Tom Lawrie and District Councillor, Mr David Paton. District Council Chairman, Mr G Wanless and other invited officials did not attend!

The Earl of Wemyss addressed the meeting remarking on the amazing turnout.

For those who were unable to get in or come on the 4th July, a full report of the meeting is available in the library.

Congratulations to the technical team for their efforts. The plans for the Pond Hall site were professionally presented - a credit to all involved.

E.L.D.C. MEETING - 12TH JULY

Following on from the Support Rally, Regional Councillor, Mr Tom Lawrie talked with District Council Chairman, Mr G Wanless, who subsequently invited the Pond Hall Action Group to a meeting which was held on Wednesday, 12th July.

The meeting was seen as an encouraging sign and a move forward towards a goal of a working partnership between the community and the District Council.

Mr Wanless indicated that E.L.D.C. would be pressing ahead with their programme, but would be prepared to meet with the Pond Hall Action Group if and when the Business Plan was available.

COMMUNITY'S PROPOSALS

Thanks to everyone who made comments and suggestions about the plans. These are proving to be very valuable.

The plans are now being reviewed, taking into account these comments. Work is continuing on the Business Plan.

YOUTH COUNCIL

A bring and buy sale and coffee day was held in July from which, the Youth Council donated £38 to the Pond Hall Action Group and also to the Old Parish Church.

Congratulations to all the young people involved. Anyone wishing to join the Youth Council after the Summer break - watch out for the date and time of the next meeting in the library.

SWIMMING CLUB

Letters have been sent out to various pool facilities enquiring about accommodation for the club. News of these are awaited.

FUND-RAISING

Thanks to everyone for all their help and support on 27th May, when the first fund-raising events, the Car Boot Sale and the Sponsored Walk was held. Over £700 was raised which is a brilliant effort.

We may have to pay legal and professional fees so fund-raising remains one of our top priorities.

Collection boxes have been placed in local shops, pubs and hotels. Individual donations will be most welcome.

Letters have been sent to all youth organisations, clubs and women's church guilds asking if they will run fund-raising events.

The Car Boot Sale held on 30th July at Bourne Leisure, the Pond Hall Action Group stalls raised £144.15. Again, thanks to everyone for their support.

The following fund-raising activities will be taking place.

THURSDAY, 17TH AUG.

Fashion Show/Cheese and Wine - Port Seton Centre. £2.00 a ticket. Contact M.Love on 811 788. NB - ticket only.

SUNDAY, 27TH AUG

Taking part in Carnival Weekend with several of our fund-raising stalls - our thanks to Bourne Leisure for their support and opportunity to take part.

A programme of further fund-raising events will be advertised. Please save any items that could be used for these events.

PUBLICITY

Well done all those who have written to the newspapers. These letters, together with several articles, 2 of which achieved front page of the "East Lothian News and Courier" have ensured that our campaign is getting the publicity it deserves.

SNIPPETS

This part highlight efforts made by individuals and groups.

START AT THE TOP

Charlene Howie (McLeod) did just that. She wrote to the Queen and has had the following reply - "The Private Secretary is commanded by Her Majesty to acknowledge receipt of the letter from Mrs Charlene Howie and to say that it has been passed to the Scottish Office - 26th July 1995". She has also written to John Major and awaits a reply.

A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

A community jamboree is being planned for 9th September 1995. This will be a great fun day for everyone. More details soon.

POND HALL ACTION GROUP MEETINGS

Open meetings held every Monday - see "East Lothian News - What's On" for details.

PLEASE COME ALONG!!