



The Centre of St Ives

www.thecornexchange.org.uk

Registered Charity 1132728

Annual Report 2010

ACE – Friends of St Ives Corn Exchange





ACE – Friends of St Ives Corn Exchange was registered as a Charity on 16th November 2009.

The Charity is established for the benefit of the residents of St Ives, Cambridgeshire and the neighbouring villages, hereinafter referred to as the 'area of benefit':

to provide or assist in the provision of facilities for the benefit of the inhabitants within the 'area of benefit', in the interests of social welfare for recreation and other leisure time occupation of individuals who have need of such facilities by reason of their youth, age, infirmity or disability, financial hardship or social circumstances with the object of improving their conditions of life without distinction of sex, sexual orientation, race or of political, religious or other opinions.

Current ACE Committee:

Mr Ian Dobson - Acting Chairman
Mrs Paula Luter - Treasurer
Mrs Janice Dobson - Secretary
Mrs Gilly Jackson - Events Committee Chairman

Mr Tony Burgess
Mrs Helen Tiddy
Mrs Jill Burt
Mr Peter Baker
Mrs Ros Pascoe

Ian Dobson – Acting Chairman: 12 Rookery Close, St Ives, PE27 5FX
Tel: 01480 463662 – Email: iandobson51@aol.com

Paula Luter – Treasurer: The Fold, Priory Road, St Ives, PE27 5BB Tel:
Tel: 01480 300963 – Email: pandbluter@tiscali.co.uk

Jan Dobson – Secretary: 12 Rookery Close, St Ives, PE27 5FX
Tel: 01480 463662 – Email: jandobson44@aol.com

Gilly Jackson – Events: The Boathouse, 19 The Broadway, St Ives, PE27 5BX.
Tel: 01480 385999 – Email: gillyjackson@ntlworld.com

Charity Registered Office: 12 Rookery Close, St Ives, Cambs, PE27 5FX





Minutes of the ACE Members Meeting at which the ACE Constitution was adopted - 22nd October, 2009 – Cromwell Room, Golden Lion

MEETING MINUTES

Date	Thursday 22 nd October, 2009 - 7:30 pm		
Venue	Golden Lion – Cromwell Room		
Attendees	Tony Burgess (Chairman)	Jan Dobson (Secretary)	Paula Luter (Treasurer)
	Ian Dobson	Evie Lewis	Chris Lewis
	Rob Zanconato	Marilyn Zanconato	Peter Plowman
	Ann Macpherson	Martin Collier	Doroth Duncan
	Patrick Duncan	Barbara Richmond	
Apologies	Helen Tiddy	John Tiddy	Angie Walters
	Nick Dibben	Peter Baker	Jill Burt

Agenda Item

1. Apologies and declarations of interest.

Apologies were given as written above. No declarations of interest were received.

2. Minutes and matters arising from Tues 10th March Meeting.

Minutes were attached to agenda for members. It was agreed that the minuted topics were again on this agenda, and so any discussion would be held during the following agenda items.

3. Charity Status Update/Proposed Amendments to the Constitution

The Chairman provided an update on discussions with the Charity Commission, and explained the reasons behind the suggested amendment to the original ACE Constitution, which had been submitted in the email invitation to this meeting to all ACE members.

The feeling was expressed that this application exercise had been especially useful in that it had served to focus the thoughts of the Trustees on the real aims and charitable purposes of ACE, the requirements of the Charity Commission and what it means to be a charity.

General discussion ensued on the future activities of ACE within the framework of this stated object, resulting in general agreement that the new suggested 'object' did indeed convey the ethos of ACE. It was Proposed by Chris Lewis and seconded by Rob Zanconato that the new 'object' be incorporated into the ACE Constitution. The proposal was unanimously carried. The new Constitution was signed by the Chairman, Tony Burgess, and witnessed by Janice Dobson.

It was explained that the revised adopted Constitution would now be re-submitted to the CC, along with tonight's minutes, with the Charity Registration hopefully to be received quite soon.

A schedule of future general meetings will be produced and circulated to the membership.





4. Corn Exchange Update

Ian Dobson (Town Councillor) provided an update on the current status of the build. The Town Council has been granted approval by DCLG to apply for the Public Works Loan it needs to proceed with the work on the building. Loan application forms have been completed and loan approval is awaited from the PWLB.

As yet party wall agreements are not concluded, although discussions with both neighbours (NatWest and Chemist) are well underway.

As yet there is no firm date for work to start, although it is hoped that it may still be during November.

Until such time as the CIC registration can be finalized, the CIC has been formed as a shadow group to the Town Council, and will be meeting this coming Monday 26th November to help progress issues such as the terms of lease agreement and lettings policy.

It was proposed by Evie Lewis and seconded by Dorothy Duncan that ACE write to the Town Council with a request that the start of the build be publicized in some way (banner as for other events in the town) to let the town know that work is underway.

Rob Zanconato offered to approach the Town Council along with Marsha (local photographer) to produce a photographic 'work in progress diary' of the build.

5. ACE Events Update

Gilly Jackson (absent) had provided a summary of ACE Events this year.

ACE has booked a stall at the St Ives Christmas Lights 'Switch-On' Event on 28th November. The Theme will be 'Four Aces', with the 'Throw the corn in the Corn Exchange' game and 'Trap the Rat' on hand. It should be a good fun day.

The ACE publicity leaflet will be available for handing out along with jam tarts. Anyone interested in helping was invited to contact Paula or Gilly. Future fundraising and publicity events will include a 'duck-race', a 'race night' and 'Lord Toby Jug' (local raving loony) has offered to put on an event for ACE with his 'sixties' contacts, Joe Brown, the Searchers and others for the Corn Exchange opening.

6. Treasurer's Report

Paula Luter, the ACE Treasurer presented her Financial Report. The ACE funds currently stands at £6862, raised through various donations and events, with publicity material (logo bugs, balloons, Corn Exchange cards) in hand to the value of approximately £400. ACE has also come by tables, chairs and shelving for community areas in the Corn Exchange through contacts at Hunts District Council prior to the demolition of Pathfinder House.

7. ACE Leaflet and Membership Drive

The ACE leaflet is currently being finalized and will be ready for delivery to every home in St Ives once work on the Corn Exchange has commenced. A membership database is under development for input of membership info once forms are returned.

8. AOB

There were no further items of business.





AGENDA

Annual General Meeting 2010

**Meeting held on Monday, 31st January 2011 at 6:30 pm
in the Cromwell Room, St Ives Corn Exchange**

1. To note attendance and apologies
2. To Receive the report of the Executive Committee on the Charity's activities over the previous year
3. To Receive the Treasurer's Report
4. To appoint an independent examiner for the Charity
5. To accept the retirement of the Executive Committee members and officers who are retired or who wish to retire from the Committee
6. To elect or re-elect Committee Members to fill the vacancies arising, and elect from the members officers to fill any other vacancies arising
7. Words from Martin Collier, Chairman of St Ives Corn Exchange Community Interest Company (CIC)
8. Questions and general discussion
9. Any other business
10. Adjournment and Refreshments





ACE - RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS 2010 – PRESENTED AT ACE AGM

RECEIPTS	2010	PAYMENTS	2010	NOTES
MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS	6,990.00	CONTRIBUTION TO WREN	2,847.00	1
CHAIR FUND	3,510.00	FITOUT CONTRIBUTION MADE TO CIC	45,344.00	2
DONATIONS FROM MEMBERS, BUSINESS	40,817.00	FUND RAISING/MEMBERSHIP LEAFLETS	336.00	
OTHER INDIVIDUAL DONATIONS/SPONSORSHIP	2,877.00	FUND RAISING LAUNCH	263.00	
INCOME FROM EVENTS	388.00	OPENING EVENT SOUVENIR BROCHURE	784.00	
SALES OF NOTELETS	58.00	AUGUST ACE EVENT	340.00	
		START UP DONATIONS TO COMMUNITY GROUPS	85.00	
		GENERAL ADMIN	129.00	
	54,640.00		50,128.00	
BALANCE AT BUILDING SOCIETY NOVEMBER 2009	6,817.00			
PLUS SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR	4,512.00		4,512.00	
TOTAL	11,329.00			

NOTE 1

Funding bodies such as Waste Recycling Environmental Limited (WREN) require a contribution from a 3rd party in support of a grant application. Grant agencies have been impressed with the level of support from the local community and this has helped the CIC to secure grants.

NOTE 2

Fitout items cover essential lighting and sound infrastructure (wiring etc) and equipment, security systems, chairs, tables, kitchen crockery and cutlery, conference support items and ad hoc items.





TREASURER'S REPORT 2010

This is the first year of accounts of ACE – Friends of St Ives Corn Exchange as a charity. It is unlikely that any future set of accounts will ever resemble these as the activities this year concentrated on fund raising with the aim of fitting out the Corn Exchange.

The fund raising campaign was launched in January and the 'Sponsor a Chair' campaign in May. In addition to money further donations have been made in kind by sponsorship and 'non' charging for items and services.

You will see that a total of £45,344 has been donated to the CIC for the purposes of building 'Fit Out'. In addition a further sum of £6789 has been allocated to the CIC for other items, i.e. a piano, further kitchen equipment and furniture as required. Funding requests from the CIC are approved by the ACE Executive Committee.

Allowing for the full donation of £6789 pledged to the CIC from the £11,329, the year end total is actually £4540. Gift Aid has yet to be claimed on the year of approximately £5000.

NB. These accounts have not yet been independently examined as required by the Charity Commission. Agenda item 4 allows for an examiner to be appointed. The examined accounts when received will be made available to any member on request.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Payment of the annual subscription is due in June each year to coincide with the anniversary of the Corn Exchange opening. Requests for membership renewal will be made nearer the time and it is hoped that most members will pay by Standing Order or cheque.

Paula Luter

January 2011





ACE Executive Committee Report to the AGM

The registration of ACE as a Charity as a support group for the Corn Exchange came out of the suggestions of Mr Stephen Hampson in the Business Plan adopted by St Ives Town Council.

The main role of ACE, as well as supporting the continued availability of a public amenity in the Town Centre, is to promote the use, viability and availability of the Corn Exchange through the provision of volunteer helpers, and to organise community events to enrich the lives of the people in the town.

The ACE Committee is working in collaboration with the Community Interest Company (CIC) which runs the building, and with the Centre Manager, Jim Burt. The website is already a joint ACE/CIC venture, and a joint Marketing Group is to be set up. The marketing and promotion of the building to all sectors of the community will be a key focus of ACE for the coming year.

The Corn Exchange has gone from strength to strength since it opened on 24th June, and already there is already a tangible community spirit in the building whenever it's open, not only on Mondays and Fridays for the markets, but more frequently also on Saturdays. And the ACE members have very much been a part of this success story.

ACE members as part of the Corn Exchange volunteer group are working hard to assist Jim Burt in keeping the Corn Exchange open frequently during the week, manning the Tourist Info point, and making it easier for people to gain access to view the building and make bookings. Corn Exchange volunteers are also helping to set up for and dismantle after events, and their administrative, DIY and events organising skills have proved invaluable in these early days of the building.

The monies raised through the generous donations of the ACE Members, either by way of subscriptions, chair sponsorship or other donations surpassed all our expectations, and we are particularly appreciative of the contributions from the businesses in St Ives and other large donors, whose names can be seen on the boards in the foyer. The Accounts show the value of the items which were purchased as a result.





The numerous events arranged either to publicise or to raise money for the Corn Exchange are listed on the following pages. Some of these have been organized by ACE. Others have been planned by other groups with the assistance of ACE, or simply with proceeds donated to ACE. Often the arrangers are members of multiple community groups, so the lines do tend to get blurred. But the end result is the same. People love the Corn Exchange and are working hard to ensure its success !

There is much expertise amongst the ACE members, and we want to use it to help others make the most of the building. We want to see the building used by all sectors of the community, all ages, all ethnic groups. We want to raise funds for a community cinema. We want to bring different parts of the community together and arrange regular events to create a true sense of community in the town centre.

Believe it or not, there are still those in St Ives who have yet to see the inside of the Corn Exchange. We want to change that.

That's our challenge for 2011.

Your Executive Committee.

January 2011





Fundraising and Focus Events in aid of St Ives Corn Exchange

Pre Charity Status :

Events organised by ACE

- May 2009 – Stalls at Farmers' Markets
- June 2009 - 'Putting on the Ritz' Draw
- June 2009 – Ellena Hale Concert – Free Church
- Dec 2009 - Christmas Social Event in the Golden Lion

Events in collaboration with others

- January 2009 – Judy Ashley - Tea Dance at St Ives Dance Studios
- April 2009 – Art Exhibition at Taproom. Showing of ACE 'Corn Exchange' picture donated by Roseanne Smith.
- April 2009 – Raffle in aid of ACE courtesy of SIMADS at Pirates of Penzance, Burgess Hall
- June 2009 – COSI Concert in aid of ACE - Free Church
- July 2009 – Judy Ashley - 'West End Comes East' - Big Names' Show – Performing Arts Centre Hinchingbrooke
- September 2009 – Julie Jenkin - 'Claydon in Concert' Free Church

Post Charity Status :

Events organised by ACE

- November 2009 – 'Four Aces' themed Stall at Christmas Lights Switch-On
- March 2010 – Invitation Event to view Corn Exchange plans – Golden Lion
- April 2010 – Application to Waitrose – Community Matters
- April 2010 – ACE Stall at 900 Opening Event
- May 2010 – Mayor's Charity Draw
- May 2010 – Stall at Anglo/Norman Living History Event
- June 2010 – Corn Exchange Opening Event
- June 2010 – Corn Exchange Community Open Day
- June 2010 – ACE Members Party
- November 2010 – 'Bit of a Do' – in aid of Film Club
- December 2010 – Stall at Craft Fayre in Corn Exchange to promote Community Cinema





Events in collaboration with others

- December 2009 – Angie Walters & St Ives Community Choir – Christmas Concert – Dolphin Hotel
- March 2010 – Concert in collaboration with COSI. ACE front of house.
- April 2010 – Jim Burt & St Ives Rotary Club - Race Night – Hemingford Abbots Hall
- July 2010 – COSI Concert in aid of ACE – Free Church
- November 2010 – Hemingford Ladies Choir Christmas Carol Concert in Corn Exchange
- December 2010 – FEST decorated Corn Exchange for Christmas with a donation from ACE.
- ACE Teas at FEST Santa's Grotto in ACE Suite

Ideas for future events for 2011 :

- TEA DANCE – Sunday 30th January – St Ives Corn Exchange (Further similar events to follow).
- Community Cinema - Further fundraising events to be organized.
- Future children's and other film showings during school holidays.
- Children's Book Fayre in collaboration with local schools
- April 2011 – Variety Showcase featuring young local talent
- Summer 2011 – Corn Exchange 1st Birthday Party for ACE Friends
- 29th April 2011 – Royal Wedding Community Event with FEST
- November / December 2011 – Christmas Show in Corn Exchange
- Quiz Nights
- Young Artists Exhibition
- Food demonstrations
- Luncheon club / Games Afternoons

