

Hagley Community Association

BUILDING FUND STANDS AT £3,200

IN the last year, Hagley Community Association made a profit of £2,300, and the Community Centre Building Fund now stands at £3,200, it was stated at the third annual meeting on Tuesday.

Hagley planned to build a centre in phases, said the chairman (Mr. A. H. Chattin). For the first phase they would need £12,000 to £13,000, and at a guess he thought they could raise this amount with the aid of grants — in about 12 months.

Donations during the year amounted to £1,335 13s. 9d., over half the income, said the retiring treasurer (Mr. J. H. Harper).

"This figure of £1,335 13s. 9d. is largely due, of course, to the impact of the appeal brochure, which cost us (after deducting from the expense incurred the advertising revenue) the sum of £53 2s. 3d.—an excellent return," Mr. Harper added.

The Building Fund total had been achieved in two years, and some momentum had now been gained to ensure the increase of the association's income.

GOOD WORKERS

In his report, Mr. Chattin said that this was the second full year of the Association's life. They had held some very successful events in the year and the tote was continuing to bring in a very healthy amount of money. They seemed to have formed a strong working party to run events. People did not always know what to do with their leisure time, and here community associations could play a big part. Such Associations had gone a great way

towards providing a happy and worthwhile community life — but not as much as had been hoped. "This has been due in great measure to the lack of suitable premises."

Any community building must be designed with all modern activities in mind, and outdoor recreations were of great importance for younger members. "I don't think we could have a finer set-up there, since in Hagley we hope to build our centre on the village playing field" continued Mr. Chattin.

He thanked all the people who had helped the association during the year, and then turned to the Association's fete, which will be held on July 10 in the grounds of Hagley Hall. In organising it, they had allowed themselves a budget of £500, but it looked as though the expenses would end up around the £350 mark. There would be 12 main items, 30 or so sideshows and about a score of stalls.

The meeting overwhelmingly endorsed the action of the fete committee, which had decided there should be no bar.

HELPERS NEEDED

Giving the report of the membership and publicity committee, Mr. Harper said there were now 342 members — 295 ordinary members, 29 associate members, 18 junior members. Forty agents delivered 1,600 copies of the Village News each month, but helpers were required to deliver some 55 copies to houses in the Stourbridge Road area. Tributes were paid to Mr. D. Batham, co-founder and Editor of the Village News, for the hard work he had put in.

Mr. W. Hughes, giving the social committee's report, stated that it was debatable whether they would continue to hold young people's dances, since these had not realised large profits. The bonfire and barbecue had realised £278 10s 2d. and all the dances had raised £277 6s. A jumble sale had resulted in a profit of £114 17s.

Mr. G. Jones said the position regarding the lease of land for the centre was that a draft lease had been agreed between the Parish Council and the Association. The next step would be the application for grants.

Officers elected were: President, Mr. W. E. C. Stuart; vice-president, Mr. T. J. Edwards; chairman, Mr. A. H. Chattin; vice-chairman, Mr. D. Batham; secretary, Mrs. A. Akerman; treasurer, Mrs. D. Cole; assistant treasurer, Mr. J. H. Harper; assistant secretary, Mrs. D. Batham; honorary solicitor, Mr. G. Jones; honorary auditor, Mr. J. D. Jasper; publicity officer, Mr. G. Rew; editor, Hagley Village News, Mr. Batham; architect, Mr. W. Nicholls.