

Longframlington/Touring

Are We in Here?

Anyone who has ever tried to organise any event will recognise the problems highlighted in this production at the Village Hall.

And they will immediately recognise the clarion call: "Are we in here?" as the village committee battles with how to celebrate the millennium.

Written by Stewart Howson, this two-hour romp is best described as a cross between *The Vicar of Dibley* and *The Archers*.

Everybody has their own opinions, everybody is willing to have their say, but nobody can make a decision.

The trendy new vicar Paul (Neil Armstrong) is prepared to go with the flow, Judith (Carola Douglass) and Terry (Christopher Goulding) have been going with the flow for years, while new boy Oliver (Christopher Knott) and village anarchist Sandra (Joanne Kelly) have plenty of views – all of which are totally unacceptable.

There is laugh after laugh as the committee bicker, their

discussions interrupted by the numerous goings-on in the community centre, each of which is graphically and cleverly brought to life by the cast.

It is the village folk versus the incomers, the traditional versus the radical, the old versus the new, and there is never going to be an amicable agreement.

But suddenly the village is faced with a crisis and all of a sudden it is all for one and one for all – well almost. NTC Touring Theatre Company has produced a gem of a play.

Brian Severs