**Belford Community Group CIO**

**Minutes of the Meeting Held on**

**Wednesday 9thNovember 2022, 7.00 pm**

**Following the AGM**

**Present:** Pauline Tucker (Chairman), Phil Dodd (Secretary), Del Hughes, Jane Cowley, Sue Husband, Karon Ives, Amanda White, Ruth Dodd.

**Others Present:**William McLaren, Steve White, Sharon Simmonds, Val Glass, Keith Walker, Viv Walker, Denise Hiscox, Mark Dodds, Linda McMahon.

**Apologies for absence:**Dave Ogden, Val Barnsley, Graham Sargent

Tony Broom, Nikki Dunn

**Minutes of Last Meeting:**Everyone agreed they were accurate and Pauline signed them.

**Matters Arising:**Dealt with later in meeting.

**Nomination of Trustees & Appointment of Officers:**Val Barnsley and Dave Ogden stepped down as trustees.

**Chairman:**Pauline is stepping down from this role, so the intention is to have a rolling chair. However, following advice from Marc, Pauline will remain in post until the new CIO is fully registered. There is also the possibility for some training to take place for those considering taking on the chairman role.

**Finances:**Although income was still greater than expenditure this month, the figures were very close, due to some sizeable outgoings. Income was solely from the shop takings and major items paid out included Accountants fees, Firebreak safety checks, Belford Christmas lights grant and other smaller amounts.

**Strategic Goal setting:**Marc has suggested that Martin Conway might be able to help with this and provide a half day of training with all the trustees, to talk through what needs to be done, what currently works well and where we want to be in five years. Some dates need to be arranged over the next couple of months, probably taking two evenings. The trustees agreed to send their available dates to Jane.

**Meeting Programme:**It was suggested that we have regular meeting slots and the third Monday of each month would suit most people, starting with 16th of January. The dates would then be set for the whole year. The structure of each meeting would be more defined too, e.g. Graham wants a new system for financial reporting.

**Arts Festival:**This prompted much discussion and many questions were raised too, i.e. how appealing is the festival (particularly to local people). Whether it is viable for BCG to support the festival long term. BCG needs to clearly define how the festival is delivered and the consultant role.

It was felt there are too many issues that need addressing, for example there was talk of reintroducing the carnival. In general there was a lack of volunteers and those helping are all getting older.

It was suggested that we should find out what local people want from an Arts Festival before seeing if Jodi would be able to deliver a festival in 2024, according to our remit.

All the above seemed to suggest that we have a long way to go before the Festival could go ahead next year and it was decided there would be no festival in 2023, to give us space to think about the Festival’s future. Pauline agreed to inform Jodi our decision.

**Shop:**Val has resigned from the Shop Committee and Keith Walker has joined. The person from **Fire Point**has not really done what was asked in relation to smoke alarms and emergency lighting. It was felt that perhaps a regular electrician could carry out these jobs. There is still no locked cupboard to store hazardous chemicals.

**Gym:**There is a committee now of 6 members and a lot of essential tasks have been carried out. These include risk assessments, signage, daily checks on equipment, (which is working well). The trustees felt that this was all good news, and thanks were offered to those involved - David Broom, Charlie Wadsworth, Steve White, Del Hughes and Michael and Carol Parkin.

A payment of £1 is needed to get the lease started, but we have to wait until the Transfer of Assets is completed and new bank account opened.

**Markets:**21 stall holders have indicated that they are coming to the Christmas Market at Bell View on Saturday 26 November.

**Woodlands:**No report received, but things appear to be going really well.

**Museum:**Safety signs have been put up and the Museum will close on 1st December until next year

**AOB:**

Pauline said that she had received the paperwork from the solicitor to remove the old trustees names from the lease. This should be completed by the end of the month, as one of the trustees is currently in Australia.

The meeting with Ian Carruthers went well.

Amanda will present the BCG wreath on Remembrance Sunday.

Following her attendance at a course dealing with Safeguarding, Sue has made a minor addition to the BCG safe guarding policy. The Trustees elected to adopt the Safeguarding Policy, which will be reviewed yearly.

Del and Pauline met with Kim Binder, Juliet Short and Martin McMahon from Bell View, with a view to establishing closer links between our two groups. The main discussion was about a village resilience plan.

The possibility of an afternoon tea for the volunteers was broached and Pauline will make enquiries.

Jane mentioned that BCG now has its own Facebook page and that it appears to be a successful innovation.

Keith asked about support for the poly tunnel at Bell View, and was asked to submit a grant request.

**Date of next meeting Monday January 16th 2023 at Bell View at 7 pm**