**Belford Community Group**

**Market Cross Guest House**

**Monday 10 October 2022, 2.00**

**Trustees Present:**Jane, Phil, Ruth, Amanda, Karon, Graham, Sue, Pauline

**Also present:** Ian Carruthers

1. **Apologies for absence:**Del, Val, Dave, William

**2. General Discussion:**The trustees had a general discussion about the grant application process. Our new charity status has highlighted the need for ensuring that all activities monetarily supported by the BCG must be fully insured and health and safety issues must be clearly addressed. Having put our own house in order, in relation to the gym, we have a clearer idea of how this should be done.

**3: Meeting with Ian Carruthers in relation to his recent grant application:**The trustees were please to speak with Ian about his grant request and we were far clearer about how we could help. It became apparent that although he needs some funding for the Christmas/New Year celebrations the village, he already has some funds in place for this year and some of his request is to ensure that future celebrations will be able to go ahead. The trustees agreed to offer a grant of £1500 in support of the costs involved for the Christmas tree, the lights and the pipe band. Additionally the trustees would like to finance the cost of the Christmas tree every year. Over the last few years a number of householders have kindly donated electricity for some of the lights outside their property. Ian told us that he was scaling down the number of lights, due to the current cost of electricity, so individuals would not be out of pocket.

The trustees agreed that they would help to get funding from local businesses for future Christmas activities and would be happy to send to letters to these companies asking for their support.

**4.New roles within BCG:**Following discussions about the Arts Festival and job shares, the following decisions were made.

Jane agreed to set the agendas and dates for meetings throughout the year, review risk assessments and chair meetings. Jane also agreed to look at grant application forms and follow up how the grants were spent and hopefully encourage the recipients take photos of their acquisitions.

Phil agreed to continue to take minutes and type them up.

Graham agreed to be the treasurer dealing with the accounting issues, but not dealing with the actual cash taken b the shop (Pauline said she would do this)

Ruth volunteered to liaise between the Arts Festival and the BCG

**5. Any other business:**

1. A wreath has been ordered for the Community Group for Remembrance Day
2. Two new people (parents) are coming to future trustees meetings
3. Jane expressed the opinion that recently the Trustees decisions have been event driven and not vice versa. She felt that there was a need to think where we want to be in 3 years time and perhaps Marc should chair a meeting where, in the New Year, we discussed this.