**Belford Community Group Meeting**

**Belford Community Shop**

**Monday 2nd July 2018 at 6:30 pm**

**Present:** William McLaren, Les Carr (Chairman), Dave Ogden (Treasurer) Pauline Tucker (Secretary) Amanda White, Susan Husband, Dennis Cromarty, Doug Renton, Ian Hodgson

**Apologies:** Judith Thurland, Phil Dodd, Ruth Dodd, Val Barnsley

**Minutes of the last meeting:** Agreed with one amendment: Val would like it noted that she is not in agreement with the other Trustees regarding not allowing political stalls at the market.

**Matters Arising from the Minutes:** No matters arising.

**Shop:** Sue said the shop is doing really well and that she is now back after some time away. There are plenty of volunteers with most shifts being covered, and donations have been good. She advised that the Shop Committee have not had time to look at putting in a ramp, but will do so when they have more time.

The shop front is being decorated at present and they have been pleased with the work done so far. New signage will also be going up soon.

**Finance:** Dave explained incoming amounts. No major expenses. Report attached.

Dave is still having issues with Barclays Bank and has raised a complaint. He feels that he customer service he has received is pretty appalling. He said Lloyd’s Bank do an account whereby he could still pay in at the Co-Op, and they are more flexible with charity accounts. After a discussion it was agreed that we should leave this in Dave’s hands to decide whether to change to a new account or not, and if he wants to change, to do it at a time that is convenient to him.

Dave clarified the situation regarding the 48 Hours in Belford Book. The Initial cost being £2019 with £490 left to repay. A discussion took place and it was agreed that there is no need to repay this amount as every effort has been made to do so. The remaining books will now be sold at Bell View, and others will be given for raffle prizes. All felt that this project had been worthwhile.

**Arts Festival:** Fiona confirmed that disappointedly no extra funding has been forthcoming. She reiterated that Jodie is on board doing the design work. Fiona showed us the artwork for leaflets etc and promotions should be going out as soon as possible. Bell View has offered funding for the workshops. The Silver Singers will be involved, and possibly do a concert and there will also be a concert in the Church, as well as a performance by the Belford Players. The School has now agreed that they can host some of the artists as originally planned. Fiona is still looking for volunteers, minibus drivers etc. A new application to the Joicey Trust will be put in. No takers on the ‘Corporate Event’ for Audrey the bus, but Fiona will offer to do a supper party at £20 per head to raise funds. She confirmed that we have received £200 from the PCC towards the festival.

**Markets:** As Ruth and Phil were not in attendance, there was no report on the Market, but it was agreed that it was busy and well attended, with a good atmosphere. The markets raised £140.

**Museum:** Pauline read the report from the Museum (attached).

**Gym:** Ian had nothing new to report. Still no confirmation on what is happening with the gym building, but hearsay says it is being gifted to the PCC and could be leased to Belford Community Group. A conversation will need to be had with the PCC once the facts are established. Amanda said there are now 43 active gym members. It was agreed we should not do any further advertising until a decision has been made regarding the gym building

**Woodlands:** Doug mentioned that a plot has been dug in the woodland and he would like those people concerned to make contact with him to discuss this. Doug will leave a note for them. John has strimmed the middle part of the woodland. More volunteers for both Woods would be welcome and Amanda offered to ask Sue Smith to put it in the newsletter and she would put out a request on the Facebook page.

Dennis said that Community Wood is fine. Bushes will be cleared shortly. Dog notices are up and seem to be having a good affect. Good comments received and a donation has been offered.

**AOB:**

**Amanda:** A few more people are signing up to the Village website and this will mean that costs will be covered. She has been able to offer reduced fees, which has helped.

**Fiona:** Ian has indicated that he may be interested in taking over the running of the minibus. A discussion took place and it was agreed that we would ask Ian how he envisages this working. It was also confirmed that Bell View had expressed an interest in taking on the minibus. We need to confirm whose name is on the log book before the school closes and Pauline will contact them. We will need to look at this closely as at present the School pays for insurance, maintenance etc.

**Date of next Meeting: Monday 2nd July 2018**