**Belford Community Group Meeting**

**Monday 20 May 2019**

**Held at Belford Community Shop**

**Apologies for absence:** William McLaren, Fiiona Renner-Thompson

**Present:** Pauline Tucker (Chair), Dave Ogden (Treasurer), Phil Dodd (Secretary), Val Barnsley, Ruth Dodd, Dennis Cromarty, Ian Hodgson, Doug Renton, Susan Husband, Amanda White, Karon Ives

**Minutes of the last meeting:** Agreed by all and signed by Pauline

**Matters arising from the last meeting:** None

**Finance:** Dave presented a separate report, which basically shows an income of £4833.77 and expenditure of £1449.02. Both strong shop takings and gym membership fees enhanced these figures. Much of the expenditure was accounted for by the usual outgoings but included the payment to Bell View for a new cooker.

**Shop:** Continues to do really well. Some work has been undertaken to sort out winter clothes for storage. The door keys are still a problem on occasions, but this was felt to be because of the many keys that have been cut.

There is a feeling that a consultant might be brought in to look at the heating in the shop (and perhaps in the museum), but as this might prove to be expensive it should be left for a few months.

**Markets:** The first market of the year was deemed to have been a success. The new marquee was well received and eight bags (to be filled with gravel) have been purchased to anchor the poles to the ground, for the new and old marquees, to aid stability in windy conditions.

**Museum:** William is going to be asked to help to get electrical bills (for the Museum) from the person concerned, as without them the Community Group will not be able to pay them.

A historic pewter plate commemorating the church has been bought and village walks highlighting places of interest is to be set up.

**Gym:** The ongoing saga with the electrical bills continues. Guy is trying to get the backdated bills written off. Steve is to take pictures of the meter to see what we are using.

**Woodlands:** Everything seems to be fine. Any old compost from the planters is to be put into the Jubilee wood.

Brian has strimmed the woodland and cut down cow parsley. A group of people is needed to come and work for a day in the woodlands. Brian is to meet someone from the council as it seems that the council want us to use their procedures, forms, etc – which is not something that is wanted.

**Strategy Group:** How better to give outgrants – perhaps it should be done by age groups, etc – Amanda, Val and Pauline are to meet to discuss this.

It was thought that an evening should be arranged for all groups in the village, Bell View, Reading room, School trustees, Parish council, Parochial council, etc – so the whole of the community can be involved in finding better ways to work together. This should be structured to make sure events do not clash, a date set for this meeting and a yearly plan devised, perhaps after the Belford Show.

**Village Hall update:** Now that replies have been received from the questionnaire, this data has to be analysed and until this happens nothing else can be done.

**Arts Festival:** Most things appear to be in hand – 50 artists are attending and the music, dance and drama is sorted. Signage is being worked on and companies have been asked to quote for this. Val is to talk to Jodi about the best way to get raffle prizes. Most of the information has been received for inclusion in the brochures but film information is still to be sent.

The raffle tickets are at the printers and a press release needs to be worked on. Fiona is to be asked to find out whether our insurance will cover the Arts festival.

First aiders are needed and some expenses are to be paid by BCG from the artist contribution.

Jodi is to be asked to come to the next BCG trustees meeting and she is having a stall at the next market to help with publicity.

**Any Other Business:** A request was received for some monetary support for a child minding service. As this is a business and we are a charity we cannot, unfortunately, help.

Louise from the Army cadets has been emailed about the cadets planting in the planters.

The Trustees would like to invite the new vicar to a future meeting with a view to perhaps considering becoming a Trustee. Pauline will meet with William and ask him if he would approach the Vicar about this matter.

It was decided we should pay Edward Robinson to work on the photos for the website, even though it was £70 a year it would only need to be done once a year.

**Date of Next Meeting: Monday 17 June 2019 at 6.30**