



## Valley Arts and Crafts

Minutes of the AGM  
Methodist Hall, Welshpool  
Tuesday 24th March 2015



### **Members Present:**

Hilda Fix, Angela Hawkins, Abi Crutcher, Ted Rogers, Marge and David Youden, Cynthia Evans, Shirley Morris, Janet Baddiley, Richard Baddiley, Michael Summers, Neil Summers, Clive Potter, Tony Caplin, Penny Vingoe, Bronwyn Strugnell, Pam and Stu Parnell

### **Apologies:**

Ineke Swankhuisen, Ian and Annie Smith, Becca Tansley

**Minutes of the last AGM:** Approved

### **Chairman's Report: Hilda**

*At the beginning of our new year, I would like to thank all those who make the Society possible, Pam, Angela, Richard, Ivor and Penny and all the volunteers who man the shop, not forgetting Heather who is always there to open up and sort out our till problems.*

*To recap for the year, we had an Art and Craft in Action show in Welshpool in June which was not too successful and I manned a shop table at Badfach Hall also in June which made a grand profit of £13.95.*

*At the meetings during the year we had a lot of demos. Pam with handmade paper, Becca knitting and metalwork, Shirley with ceramics, Ted and Diana showed how they make their boxes, Penny with polymer clay and Angela with Shetland knitting and I hope we can continue this.*

*I started a Newsletter which came out after every meeting to let people know what was happening and what members were up to. I will continue this as long as members let me know what they are up to.*

*It has been proposed that there should be conditions to membership such as members having to attend meetings. This has been brought up in the past and I want to put forward some observations. If you belong to a society or organisation then you should help in that society. We have members who pay*

*fees then we never see them. We have members who do not attend meetings but help in the shop. We also have people we never see who have items in the shop and don't help in the shop. Actually 55 people are coded on the till but only 15 people are on the rota but we get 30% commission from the 40. The £20 a year membership pays for renting the room for meetings, advertising and other items which Angela will explain later. We should also remember that if the shop does not do well and cannot pay all the bills, then those have to be met with membership fees. If we put conditions to membership we will probably lose members which happened when we put the membership fees up. We do not have as many members as we did some years ago and the fewer members we have the higher the cost of insurance is. Those of you who are aware of the Orange Tree Collective in Llanfyllin know that to put items in the shop there costs £4 a week making £208 a year. If their shop was open at the same times as us it would be around £136, a bit different from our £40 a year. In view of the above I am not of the opinion that we should put conditions on but I'll open it up for discussion.*

This was discussed by the group and voted on and it was decided that no conditions should be attached to membership.

*There was a proposal that we should have less meetings, which seems sensible as we do not have the shows to arrange as we used to. I believe we should have meetings in February to discuss the shop opening, the AGM in March and a meeting in May, July, September and October to arrange the shop closing which would make 6 in total as opposed to the 10 we had this year, but we should have them on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays to give people more opportunity to attend but this is open for discussion.*

This was discussed, voted on and agreed, hopefully to have 2 on Tuesdays, 2 on Wednesdays and 2 on Thursdays if it is possible to hire the room to suit.

*We also need to look at the Articles of Association and the terms and conditions for the shop. We should have an assistant secretary and the terms and conditions need to be altered as there is no longer a shop co-operative.*

These were discussed by the group and alterations suggested and passed. Hilda has volunteered to amend them and these will be forwarded to all members when they are ready.

### **Treasurer's Report: Angela**

*First the good news. VAC ended 2014 with more money in the bank than 2013 i.e. £3833.93 as opposed £3553.74.*

This despite a fall in income down from £13,378 to £11,926. £200 less on subs and consequent fall in insurance income. Shop sales down on card from £4483 to £3691, Cash £6311 to £5853.

The fall in income offset by the drop in expenditure £14247 in 2013 to £11775 in 2014. The bulk of the difference is down to more payments to members from £10,056 to £7151 (some members previously being commission free are now paying it).

£9544	Total sales for 2014
£7151	Paid to members
£2393	'Profit' to shop
£2151	Expenditure at shop

Therefore shop costs are covered to benefit of members of VAC.

Valley Arts & Crafts Annual Accounts from 31 <sup>st</sup> December 2013 to 31 <sup>st</sup> December 2014					
Income			Expenditure		
	Dec 2013	Dec 2014		Dec 2013	Dec 2014
Subscriptions	£1,280.00	£1,080.00	Room Hire	£156.00	£204.00
Insurance	1,018.00	£979.00	Insurance	1,181.15	1,242.01
Craft Sales	131.01	nil	Craft Sales	42.00	10.00
Other	152.51	320.49	Card Machine	516.57	528.74
Credit Card Sales	4,483.34	3,691.17	Payments to Mbs	10,054.07	7,151.16
Cash Sales	6,311.83	5,853.65	Rates	nil	nil
Interest	1.82	1.93	Water	106.54	109.80
	<u>£13,378.51</u>	<u>£11,926.24</u>	Rent	945.00	945.00
			Telephone	254.87	222.82
			Electric	234.00	276.00
			Craft Supplies	115.37	156.41
			Adverts & Stationery	224.14	436.00
			Web Site	nil	15.00
			Other	418.26	478.11
				<u>£14,247.97</u>	<u>£11,775.05</u>
<b>Bank Balance 31/12/13</b>			<b>Bank Balance 31/12/14</b>		
Community A/C	603.41		Community A/C	900.37	
Money Manager	2,950.33		Money Manager	2,933.56	
	3,553.74			3,833.93	
Income	11,924.31		Expenditure	11,775.05	
	15,478.05			15,608.98	
Interest	1.93		plus prev uncl chqs	14.00	
	15,479.98			15,622.98	
			less uncleared chqs	143.00	
				15,479.98	
Checked & found correct	Signed <i>A Jones</i>				
	Address <i>Glaston, Porthcreek</i>				
	Date <i>20-3-15</i>				

Appointment of officers: Pam

*Unfortunately we had a very poor response to this as only 3 people bothered to vote and one of them didn't meet the deadline. An extremely poor response which needs to be noted for the future.*

*The new committee is as follows:*

<b>Position</b>	<b>Nominee</b>	<b>Proposer</b>	<b>Secunder</b>
Chair	Hilda Fix	Shirley Morris	Marge Youden
Vice Chair	Shirley Morris	Pam Parnell	Stuart Parnell
Treasurer	Angela Hawkins	Bronwyn Strugnell	Penny Vingoe
Secretary	Pam Parnell	Shirley Morris	Tony Caplin
Assistant Secretary			
Press Officer	Ivor Hawkins	Pam Parnell	Richard Baddiley
Webmaster	Penny Vingoe	Bronwyn Strugnell	Angela Hawkins
Assistant Webmaster	Clive Potter	Penny Vingoe	Hilda Fix

*No surprises there then! Please note that the post of assistant secretary is still available if any of you would like to nominate yourself then I would be more than happy to second you.*

**Honorarium:**

This was discussed and it was agreed to keep this the same as last year. £50 to be paid to Angela and Pam to cover their costs in phone calls, letters, paper for printing etc. and £25 to the Auditor for auditing our yearly accounts.

**Any other business:** None

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**Ordinary Meeting**

**Minutes of the last meeting:** Approved

**Shop 2015: Hilda**

*Hopefully the rates will be zero rated again. The shop reopened on 13<sup>th</sup> March after being cleaned and restocked. I would be grateful if members could update their pages in the ring binder kept at the shop and please check your webpages and make sure they are correct and up to date as this is your responsibility. We had a nice article in the Chronicle with two photographs thanks to Ivor. In June there is going to be a sports challenge at the lake held by Samworth Bros. a large food company who do it every 2 years. It is being held on 6<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> June and they are hoping to have 400 participants in each. I would like to have*

*our pull up banners in the hotel. It is rumoured that the Brownley Bros. and Jessica Innes will be attending. Stan Jankowski one of our former members is making the trophies. I would like to get our brochures out to all the local B&B's earlier. I also think it would be a good idea to open the shop at 10am on the following days 7<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> as we may catch people after they have checked out of the B&B's and I am more than happy to do these days if the people on the rota would like to swap with me. Part of all the money raised by the event will go to local charities.*

*There is as yet no new on the lease but we keep paying the rent. As I said the shop is open and we have taken over £400 so far. I did send information about the opening to the County Times but needless to say it didn't appear .*

*As it is the tenth anniversary of the Society we should have something in the Chronicle to celebrate and we will work on that. Perhaps Clive would take some photographs to be included with the article.*

*Severn Trent is employing a ranger for the estate to look after the maintenance and sort out problems.*

*Once the dates for the meetings have been fixed I would like to gather a list of volunteers for demonstrations at those meetings.*

*Shirley reminded people about having a shop table at local events like we have done in the past if people are willing to collect items from the shop to take and then return unsold items to the shop. This would be manned by other members already at the show with a table of their own.*

**Pam:**

*All items brought to the shop should be clearly marked on the reverse or on tags where appropriate with the price and till code as minimum. Paintings or photographs must state the title, medium and price to be placed on our own shop labels which can be done in the shop providing the information is left with the item. They should also arrive with appropriate hangings i.e. eyes and looped cord (approximately one third down from the top). Absolutely **NO** dayglo labels or stickers will be allowed in the shop. Please note that shop staff do not have the time nor the resources to do this for you. Items that do not comply will not be accepted.*

*Items that require special display materials should be brought in by the member concerned as we only have a limited amount of such display items.*

*I would also like to suggest a new idea for the shop. Members of the public often ask who has made certain items in the shop so I have an idea that may solve this problem and make the buying experience a more personal affair. I suggest that all members who have stock in the shop should produce a postcard sized information label that can be placed near your work. It would be nice if it could have a small photograph and a little information about yourself and what you produce. You could state at the bottom that business cards are available from the shop staff if you have them. This is not compulsory it's just an idea. Please stick to the size of a postcard and no bigger as we do not have the room available.*

## **Upcoming events**

Marbury Merry Days:

Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2015. Cost £40 for the two days. Contact: Richard Shears, Wicksted House, Wirswall, Whitchurch SY13 4LE, Tel: 01948 663087, mobile: 07778 604470

Powys Artisan Fairs:

Held on 9<sup>th</sup> May, 20<sup>th</sup> June, 25<sup>th</sup> July, 15<sup>th</sup> August, 5<sup>th</sup> September at the Corn Exchange, Welshpool. Costs vary depending on how many you book. Contact: Kristian at [powysartisanfairs@gmail.com](mailto:powysartisanfairs@gmail.com) or tel: 01938228397

Glansevern Hall:

Food and craft fair: 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> July.  
Contact M. James on 01938 553579. Pitches are £20 for the two days.

Charity Craft Fairs:

Held at the Corn Exchange, Welshpool. Saturdays 13<sup>th</sup> June, 11<sup>th</sup> July, 8<sup>th</sup> August and 19<sup>th</sup> September. Table cost is £6 or £10 for two tables. Contact Alan Crowe: [alan60s@live.com](mailto:alan60s@live.com) or tel: mobile 07782 166342.

**Any other business:**

**Angela asked if we would like to put an advertising insert in the West Midlands Paper which goes out to 30,000 home as a free paper and 1,000 locally. The cost is £90 plus vat and goes in with an editorial. We have done this in the past as many of our customers are from that area. It was discussed and we voted to do it. Also she asked if we would like a full page advert on the Llanfair show leaflet like we usually do at a cost of £50 and**

**again this was agreed on. The Llanfair show is on 5<sup>th</sup> September and Angela will have forms nearer the time.**

**Membership renewal:**

**Membership is due for renewal on 1<sup>st</sup> April at a cost of £20. Cheques should be made payable to Valley Arts and Crafts and sent to Angela Hawkins, Ceunant, Pontrobert, Meifod, Powys SY22 6JN. They should include a stamped addressed envelope for your receipt and membership card or it can be collected from the shop. Please note you have one calendar month from the date of this meeting to pay as stated in the articles of association so please be prompt when paying.**

**Dates of our meeting for you diaries or calendars:**

**Angela has now booked the following dates:**

**Tuesday 26th May 2015**

**Wednesday 29th July 2015**

**Thursday 24th September 2015**

**Wednesday 28th October 2015**

**Tuesday 25th February 2016**

**Thursday 31st March 2016 - AGM**