



VALLEY ARTS AND CRAFTS



Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Wednesday 20th March 2019

Methodist Church Hall, Welshpool

Present – Hilda Fix, Jayne Griffiths, Sue Lavender, Nina Jones, Cynthia Evans, Parveen Nazar, Mandy Britton, Sue Holt, Tony Caplin, Lorry Turpin, Tracey Linthwaite, Angela & Ivor Hawkins, Jen Owen, Becca Tansley, Vivien Holloway, Lena Jones, Beth McPhee, Hazel Smith, Paul & Chris Walker, Penny Vingoe, Abi Crutcher

Apologies – Patricia Trigg, Bronwyn Strugnell, Nicky Walters, Stella Gratrix, Melvyn Dodd, Mel Bird, Debbie Shaw, Peter Eccleston, Rebecca Sheridan, Val Padbury

Minutes of last AGM meeting – these were approved

Chairman's Report -

First of all, I would like to thank all the volunteers who worked in the shop this past year, without you we wouldn't be able to open so thank you once again.

I would also like to thank our other volunteers, namely –

Geoff (Cynthia's husband) for doing the putty work on the kitchen window before it fell out!

My long-suffering husband Mervyn for his work again this year for repainting the kitchen and the inside of the kitchen window. We also had to replace all the woodwork (shelves etc.) as they were rotten. We also have a nice new shelf by the sink made of oak (it was an off cut he had in his 'man cave').

2018/2019 recap - we set aside a shelf in the shop to showcase products sold in the shop. This was done on a themed/seasonal basis and was positioned so it was one of the first areas that was seen when people came into the shop. It was deemed successful enough to run it again this year.

We staged a craft show at the Lake Vyrnwy Hotel and Spa on the 6th May. Although, it was a lovely venue and was a really nice day weather wise, it was felt that it was not an ideal venue for future events due to the footfall we got that day and the difficulty with parking. Will Deene did suggest that we consider 'tagging' onto another event, like for instance the craft fair that goes hand in hand with the Music Festival at Llanwddyn.

That is something that can perhaps be considered for this year.

New Members' Pack - We produced a new member pack this year and this not only contained a welcome letter, but also the terms and conditions, a brochure, a copy of the last newsletter and the last set of minutes. This seems to have been well received by new members. Paul & Tracey both confirmed that the information included was useful.

Nicky kindly offered to produce 'slips of item sold' that could go into individuals envelopes. This has been well received, as it helps us all to track what we have sold during that month. It was decided that Hilda will delay issuing envelopes until the slips are available so that money and slips are received together. This will make it easier for members to keep track of items that have been sold.

The kitchen has now been painted and the window area refurbished. Again it has made a big difference, as the area looks clean and bright.

To make the shop front stand out more in the courtyard, we purchased two Welsh flags and fitted two flag poles to either side of the doors. We also added two dragon decals and wording to the glass above the door. It was not possible to see the original wording from outside when the lights were on in the shop, so a white panel has been added. It was not possible to add the wording in Welsh as well, because of the lack of space. To do so would have lessened the impact. Therefore, we will look at adding the wording in Welsh to the kitchen window.

Treasurers Report – see Hilda's write-up

Questions arising –

How much does the website cost us and is it feasible to use a free platform instead of paying for one? Penny will look into the options available, however we will still need to pay for our domain name.

How is membership looking this year as income/membership was down in 2018/2019? We have recently acquired three new members, but we will have a better idea of how numbers compare once all membership fees are in.

Election of Officers –

The following people were proposed on block by Tony Caplin and seconded by Cynthia Evans.

Chairperson – Jayne Griffiths

Treasurer – Hilda Fix

Secretary – Sue Lavender

Vice Chairperson – Sue Holt

Any other business – It was agreed that Angela could leave some leaflets in the shop for the Powys Gardens scheme.

Thank you to Parveen for the nibbles and to Mandy, Parveen & Abi for making the drinks.