



## VALLEY ARTS AND CRAFTS



### **Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2018**

Methodist Church Hall, Welshpool

#### **Present:**

Jayne Griffiths, Hilda Fix, Sue Lavender, Will Deene, Tracey Linthwaite, Sue Holt, Ted Rogers, Diana Rogers, Deborah Shaw, Parveen Nazar, Jen Owen, Mandy Britton, Penny Vingoe, Tony Caplin, Pat Trigg,

#### **Apologies:**

Cynthia Evans, Bronwyn Strugnell, Sarah Hall, Nicky Walters, Stella Gratrix, Sonya Smith, Rebecca Sheridan, Paul Walker, Lorry Turpin, Richard & Val Padbury, Abi Crutcher, Cath Rogers, Gail Lee,

#### **Minutes of the last meeting**

The minutes were approved.

#### **Matters Arising:**

*Craft Shows & Events* – Will Deene talked about the number of craft shows available within the local area. These can be quite lucrative and are relatively cheap to enter, for example Montgomery Show. Will agreed to put together a list of local shows and the name of the person to contact for a stall. This will then be sent out to all members so that they can also participate.

Upcoming shows include:

Sept 1<sup>st</sup> - Llanfair show

|                       |   |                                 |
|-----------------------|---|---------------------------------|
|                       |   | Newtown Food fair               |
|                       |   | Llanwyddn music show            |
| Sept 22 <sup>nd</sup> | - | Bishop's Castle Michaelmas fair |
| Nov 24 <sup>th</sup>  | - | Four Crosses                    |
|                       |   | Kerry Village                   |
| Dec 1 <sup>st</sup>   | - | Llanrhyder village show         |
| Dec 8 <sup>th</sup>   | - | Bishop's Castle craft fair      |

All members were asked to forward show details to Jayne so that a calendar of events can be created.

*Thank yous* - Jayne welcomed all our new members – Paul, Cath, and Val & Richard, in their absence. All members have been sent membership packs.

A thank you was also extended to Cynthia's husband for putting the new putty in the window by the kitchen. As a small token of our appreciation we bought him some sandpaper, as we know he likes his woodwork and especially as he wouldn't take any money for the putty.

VAC thanked Aled for supplying and fitting new carpet strips to the carpet already donated by Beth. Jayne said once again what a difference the carpet had made to behind the counter.

*Decorating the kitchen area* - During the shutdown period this year, Jayne and her husband intend to paint the kitchen area and the window area, as it is looking extremely sorry for its self.

*Road Closure* - We have been informed by Severn Trent that the road will be closed from 9.30 am to 3.30 pm from Monday 10<sup>th</sup> September to Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> inclusive. For those of us working in the shop on those days (Sue and Marge Youden (David) at the moment) it will involve an extra 20 minutes driving to get around the lake in the morning. The road works will not be able to take part if it is raining.

Aled & Bay will decide closer to the day whether or not the café will be open on these days. It was decided that, at the moment, the shop will remain open.

*Meeting with PAVO* - On 6<sup>th</sup> August, Jayne, Hilda and Sue had a very constructive meeting with representatives, Keith Rollinson and Jamie, from PAVO.

The issue of replacement of the till was raised and Keith felt that that was something they could help us with. It was left with him to look into it.

We also brought up the issue of publicity and PAVO would be able to help us with that, in the form of access to suitable platforms.

We should be also able to access funding in the form of grants. To this end Jayne, Hilda and Sue accessed an online presentation on 'What makes a great funding bid?'. This was provided free by PAVO.

While they were in the shop, Keith and Jamie had a good look around and made a number of suggestions as far as making our presence in the courtyard stand out better. One of these suggestions was adding to the lettering on the glass above the door. Therefore, we have ordered two Welsh dragon decals and 'Hand made in Wales' to add to the existing lettering. We are also going to put a board behind the lettering to make it stand out. At the moment, we can see it clearly from inside the shop, but it is hardly discernible from outside because of the light levels in the shop. Another suggestion was to somehow attract peoples' attention, by having something moving outside the shop. So, we have decided to purchase two Welsh flags and perhaps add 'Hand made in Wales' to the bottom of the flags using appliqued lettering. These flags are made of 100% polyester, so we are not sure whether you can successfully applique lettering onto them.

PAVO also run a number of training courses – one of them being 'Social Media'. Jayne and Sue will hopefully be attending these in September and October, to enable us to fully understand and move forward with our social media profile.

*Seasonal Shelf* - The current 'holidays/beach' shelf will be changed to 'autumnal' by Hilda on the 4<sup>th</sup> September, so you still have time to make items for this shelf, if you so wish. This theme will also incorporate things in autumnal colours.

*Christmas Stock* - Hilda has written an article for The Chronicle to encourage people to do their Christmas shopping at Lake Vyrnwy before we close at the end of the season. This article needs to be submitted before 15<sup>th</sup> September. Photographs of Christmas stock were taken after tea & coffee.

*Carrier bags* - Jayne asked whether anybody had any carrier bags they didn't want, for the larger items in the shop. Nobody had any as people generally tend to use re-useable bags. Sue suggested that we purchase some larger handled paper bags for the larger items, she brought along an example of bags she uses. It was agreed that this is a good idea. Ted suggested a website called 'Bag n Box' might be a good place to look. Sue will investigate the cost of paper bags.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Hilda brought us up to date with the current financial situation. Sales for this year are very similar to last year. This should mean we have enough money to pay the bills throughout the shut-down period but that we won't have any excess money available for next year.

A reminder was given to members that all stock needs to be clearly labelled and that initials are clear, particularly as we have new members as codes can be quite similar.

### **Members' Remarks**

*Shop Days* – swaps are needed for the following dates in the shop:

9<sup>th</sup> September

18<sup>th</sup> September – Sue Holt volunteered

Hilda will send out an e-mail to all members for the 9<sup>th</sup> September.

*List of Members* – Jen asked if everyone could have a list of all current members, a contact number, what they make and their selling code. Sue will organise this and send out to all members.

*Allocation of space* – Sue Holt enquired as to how space is allocated at the shop. Jayne explained that there are no set rules, but that the aim is to give everyone a fair bite of the cherry. Jayne will ask her husband if he is able to make some racks to display more prints at the shop. Sue Holt will also ask her husband about making a rack suitable for displaying her prints.

### **Craft Shows & Events**

Guilfield Show - 9th August

Llanfyllin Show - 11th August

Montgomery Show- 18th August

Berriew Show - 25th August

Llanfechain – 27<sup>th</sup> August (application form emailed out)

Llanfair - 1st September (application form emailed out)

Llanwddyn Music festival – 1<sup>st</sup> September

Four Crosses – 24<sup>th</sup> November (application form emailed out)

Kerry Craft Fair – 24<sup>th</sup> November, (email Sue for an application form)

Please send details of all craft fairs/shows to Jayne for inclusion on a craft calendar. Penny, Jen and Nicky will put information about shows on the website and social media if they are told about them.

### **Website and Social Media**

*Website* – Please send any information for the website to Penny.

*Members' pages* – Members need to send photos and a brief write-up to make members' pages for the website.

### **Any other Business**

### **Future Meetings**

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> October

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> December (Christmas get-together)

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> February

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March – 2019 AGM

A thank you to all the people who helped with making drinks and washing up and to Parveen for the home baking.