



## VALLEY ARTS AND CRAFTS

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2018

Methodist Church Hall, Welshpool

### **Present**

Hilda Fix, Jayne Griffiths, Lena Jones, Ted and Diana Rogers, Pavenne Nazar, Angela Hawkins, Nina Jones, Mandy Britton, William Denne, Becca Tansley, Sonya Smith, Beth McPhee, Nicky Walters

### **Apologies**

Stella Gratrix, Richard and Jan Baddiley, Cynthia Evans, Bronwyn Strugnell, Melyn Dodd, Sarah Hall, Mike Browning, Penny Vingoe, Sarah Jones, Lorry Turpin, Abi Crutcher, Deb Shaw, Sue Lavender

### **Minutes of last Meeting**

The Minutes were approved with comments on how good the Llanfyllin Christmas Market was.

### **Matters Arising**

The shop will be opening on Monday March 26<sup>th</sup>. It has been repainted thanks to Mervyn, Jayne, Hilda, Sue and Heather's ladder. New decals have been put on the signs and there is a new card holder to replace the broken rusty one.

Thanks to everyone who volunteered to work in the shop. We have enough volunteer days to be able to open until October 29<sup>th</sup> with thanks especially to new volunteers Mandy, Abi, Deb and Alex. Nikki will replace Ted and Diana as the emergency stand in. Thanks to Richard who has done the rota. This has now been sent out to all shop volunteers. The restocking/till training days will be Monday 12<sup>th</sup> March, Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> March and Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> March. There will be room for reserve stock on the shelves behind the curtains. This is primarily for the use of members who do not come to the shop very often and to replace stock that has been sold.

Hilda reminded members that new cards of members' details are required for the shop as it makes it more interesting for customers to know something about the creators of the items.

New shop ideas were discussed. There should be more of a Gallery feel with, where appropriate, a Less is More approach as when there are a lot of items on a shelf there is a sense of 'not seeing the forest for the trees'. It may be possible to rotate stock on shelves to make it more interesting for our regular visitors. Some items cannot be moved eg teddy bears.

The Terms and Conditions for the shop are being amended and this will be voted on at the AGM. It is hoped to make them less specific and less abrupt. At the moment it does say that if stock is not sold you may be asked to remove or change things. The amendment will say that if stock has been on the shelves for two seasons without being sold the member will be asked to remove it and bring in new stock, that is not to say that the old stock cannot be brought back at a later date as sometimes when this happens the stock gets sold. The current terms and conditions and the proposed amended

version will be sent to all members before the AGM.

There should be a small article in the March issue of the Chronicle about the shop opening and refurbishment. We will also need another piece about the new officers after the AGM. Unfortunately this will be too late for the April deadline so hopefully it will be in the May issue.

### **L V M A**

RSPB and Severn Trent have put in a Heritage Lottery Fund Bid to rejuvenate the Lake area. The whole project is estimated to cost £5 million with the HLF bid hoped to provide £3 million. But the rejuvenation will be a couple of years in the making.

Hilda asked members to look out for the Weatherman Walking programme which was filmed around Lake Vyrnwy.

Hilda has put the information about the shop opening on the L V M A website.

### **Brochure**

The new brochure is now available and Hilda asked members to put it wherever they could, shops caravan sites etc., from around the middle of March. There is a box in the shop with 2,000 brochures with another box with 3,000 in Hilda's carport

### **Advertising**

There is a revised ad in the Chronicle As we have spent a lot of money on the shop refurbishment we would need to think carefully about any other advertising.

### **Treasurers report**

Angela reported that the accounts would be going to the auditor shortly and hopefully would be available at the AGM. Having done the accounts our bank balances as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017 were community account £144.09 and the money management account £4,916.18 which is £13.17 less than the accounts as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016.

### **Craft Events**

Hilda, Jayne and Sue met Anthony the Director of Operations at Lake Vyrnwy Hotel and decided on Sunday May 6<sup>th</sup> as the date for the Craft Fair. It will take place from 11 to 5 in their banqueting room and they will provide large round tables with a meeting room next to the main room so that members can have drinks and lunches away from their tables. The cost will be £12 a table payable in advance.

Hirnant will be holding a 10 x 10 exhibition as they did last year. Squares will be available from Heather and The Orange Tree in Llanfyllin

After the Lake Vyrnwy show we may be able to think about a Christmas Show in Guilsfield in November.

The Llanwddyn Music Festival and the Llanfair Caereinion Show are on 1<sup>st</sup> September

Jayne mentioned a 2 day show at Craven Arms in November and the 2 day Steam Rally in Shrewsbury over the August Bank Holiday weekend.

Penny will put shows on the website and Nicky will put shows on facebook to let people know where members will be.

## **Website and Social Media**

Thanks to Nicky and Jen for organising Facebook.

Members were asked to send new or updated members pages for the website to Penny at [VAC@clayaround.com](mailto:VAC@clayaround.com) with text and photos separately.

It seems that people may be going off Facebook and going on Instagram. Hilda wondered if this could be used as more publicity for Valley Arts and Crafts.

Lake Vyrnwy has a facebook page We may be able to make use of that.

## **Members remarks**

Members discussed restocking the shop and the reserve stock and if there are fewer items on the shelves members on duty must ensure that stock is replaced when sold.

## **AOB**

Hywel Phillips will not be rejoining as business is going well but he has donated money from the sale of his photo and Anne Collins has donated her jewellery to sell in the shop and the cash that was due to her. Thanks to them for their donations.

At the AGM Jayne will be nominated as the new Chairman, Hilda nominated as Treasurer .We will need a Vice Chair. Penny has kindly said she will remain as Webmaster We also need someone to do the Newsletter. Hilda felt that the Newsletter was good for people who don't come to meetings and with more information that is in the minutes.

We need ideas of what to do after the meetings. Mandy suggested doing a collaborative creation of some sort

## **New Members**

Our new member Alex Thornton was then introduced and members saw examples of her husband's woodwork and looked through his portfolio.

Thanks to Jayne and Becca for tea duty, Pavenne for home baking, Jayne for donated german spiced biscuits and Laura Summers for a box of chocolates.

The next meeting is Wednesday March 21 which will be the AGM followed by the general meeting.