



## Valley Arts and Crafts

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> February

at the Methodist Church Hall, Welshpool

Present:

Angela Hawkins, Pam and Stuart Parnell, Hilda Fix, Elaine and Phillip Tulley, Tony Caplin, Debbie Shaw, Cynthia Evans, Peter Eccleston, Jane Ashetty, Mark Humphrey, Jayne Griffiths, Nina Jones

Apologies:

Stella Gratrix, Ted and Dianna Rogers, Beth McPhee, Penny Vingoe, Parveen Nazar, Dave Field, Penny Ravenhill, Summers Cameron, Marge and David Youden Abi Crutcher.

Minutes of the last meeting:

Approved

Chairman's Report

Shop

Hilda welcomed everyone to the meeting especially new members present. She suggested that the group introduce themselves to each other for the benefit of the new members. She wished everyone a Happy New Year and sent wishes for a prosperous New Year.

Shop:

Cleaning and restocking will take place on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> February 11am to approx 3pm. Anyone wishing to have stock in the shop should bring it on that day if possible otherwise we will have empty shelves. Stuart will be taking photographs of work in preparation for our own website and for the LVMA website. She asked Angela if there had been any news on the rent or rates yet and the answer was no.

Banking

For those of you who don't know, all VAC financial transactions take place with the HSBC. It has recently been announced that the HSBC are closing local banks, two of which are the

one in Llanfair Caereinion which is where Angela normally banks and the one in Llanfyllin which is her second choice. Because at times she has to pay in or draw out large sums of money in cash there is concern about the safety and security of such actions if she is unaccompanied by her husband Ivor. It was therefore suggested that she should have an escort on these occasions and this will need sorting out nearer the time.

#### Rota

All new members will need till training and familiarising with shop procedures and so they need to arrange to meet up with one of the current shop staff to do this before they are first on duty as you will be on your own in the shop. It has come to notice that we were short of members to work in the shop and that one shop member has pulled out at the last minute leaving us with large gaps. As the cafe next door to us close on a Tuesday we propose that we do the same except of course during school holiday when they will remain open. This should alleviate the problem. Unfortunately this means that the rota will have to be done again and may cause inconvenience to those already signed up. At this late stage there isn't a lot we can do about it, only to say that you will need to swap days as before if the days allotted don't suit.

#### Display at Welshpool Tourist Information Centre

This will be between April 22<sup>nd</sup> and May 5<sup>th</sup> but may also be for the two weeks prior to this also. Pam, Stuart, Angela and myself visited to get measurements and work out what is possible and we will do our best to put on a good exhibition to advertise ourselves to the public and especially tourists! We will put up a banner saying who we are and lots of photographs.

#### Events Calendar

We are hoping to get together a list of all shows with dates, contact details etc for our website and any comments if you have done these shows in the past. If you have any such information, please would you pass it on to Penny Vingoe who is our webmaster or to Pam. We will also add to this list any members like Phillip and Elaine Tulley who have a stall on Oswestry Market.

#### Meetings

Demonstrators for our next meetings are: April Pam, June Tony, August Jayne, October Cynthia. There are no demos in March as this is the AGM and December as this is our Christmas get together.

#### Advertising

There will be an advert in the Chronicle and it will be in every issue until we close.

I have also contacted the Advertiser to see if they want to do a story but have had no response as yet.

#### Lake Vyrnwy Marketing Association

Severn Trent are now taking responsibility for cutting trees, organising events and getting the minutes out.

#### Marquees

As most of you are aware we own two large marquees which we used to use for shows. We haven't used them for a long time and have had nowhere to store them since Richard and Jan moved out of the area. We loaned them to the Lake Vyrnwy Festival committee for their events as they agreed to store them for us. As they have had them for a while and we have not used them we have decided to sell them and use the money for doing up the shop and to go towards new brochures for next year. We offered them to them and they have come back with an offer of £200 for them both. This was voted on and agreed.

#### Bodfach hall

I will contact them to see if the gardens will be open again in June and see if we can have 6 or 7 stalls there. That is if there are enough members who would like to do it. If you are interested please let either myself or Pam know as soon as possible as places may be limited.

#### Retirement

We say goodbye to one of our members Marie Ashton who has kindly donated her last bits of stock to us. Happy retirement Marie from all of us.

#### Shop keys

We are trying to track down all key holders for unit 3. If you have a key please can you make yourself known to Pam.

#### AGM

Please don't forget that the AGM is next month on Thursday March 31<sup>st</sup>. We need as many of you as possible to attend as we need a quorum to vote in a new committee.

#### Treasurer's Report:

As at 13<sup>th</sup> February the balances were as follows:

Community Account: £2133.98

Money Manager: £2308.39

Craft shows:

None were brought to the meeting.

Any other business

Pam said she had been contacted by a carpenter who has just moved into the area and wondered if we would consider him for our group. As this was a slightly odd request it was discussed. On the one hand it doesn't fit with us but on the other he is a craftsman. Angela pointed out that unless he sold things rather than services he wouldn't benefit from it but it was pointed out that not everyone of our members sell goods. A vote was taken and it was finally decided that we saw no objection to him joining.

Demonstration: Nina demonstrated bow making using some very ingenious tools. She made it look incredibly easy and it was fascinating to see how they worked. Thank you Nina.

AGM

As you will by now all be aware that the next meeting is the AGM it is that time of year again when we would ask you to vote in the committee for this coming year. As usual I enclose a form for you to complete and return as soon as possible as they need to be in by 17<sup>th</sup> March at the latest. Any received after this date will not be counted.

Your Name	Position	Nominee	Permission sought
	Chairperson		
	Vice chairperson		
	Treasurer		
	Secretary		
	Press Officer		
	Web designer		