



Valley Arts and Crafts

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 24th 2014

at the Methodist Church Hall, Welshpool

Present:

Angela Hawkins, Pam and Stuart Parnell, Hilda Fix, Shirley Morris, Parveen Nazar, Bronwyn Stugnell, Mike Browning, Penny Ravenshill, Penny Vingoe, Tony Caplin, Clive Potter, Ted and Diana Rogers, Becca Tansley

Apologies:

Marie Ashton, Lena Jones, Stella Gratrix, Deb English, Beth Mcphee, Daphne Bursell, Jen Owen, Chrissie Menzies, Stella Wilcox, Phillip Tulley, Neil Summers and Abi Crutcher

Minutes of the last meeting: Approved

Chairman's Report:

Hilda welcomed the group and began by asking members to make themselves known to other members with a brief description of what they do as we had new members present and not everyone knew each other. Hilda then moved on to the subject of the letter from Powys County Council which Angela received basically saying there would be new terms and conditions for the rental of the shop such as being responsible for the maintenance of the building, Insurance and Business Rates. As far as maintenance is concerned it was open ended (not good when you are in a Victorian Building) when all the other units they let are relatively new. Insurance we pay anyway and we don't pay business rates because we are a small business in a rural area under a Welsh Government scheme. It also gave us three months notice without giving us the lease as they hadn't been approved yet. The letters which went to all unit holders were not sent recorded delivery so it is entirely possible that we may not have received it had it gone astray in the postal system. On Thursday 19th of May a meeting was called by the three unit holders at Vyrnwy with the chap from the council. This was meant to take place at 9am so Pam and Stu went in two hours early to be there. He rang at 9.20am to say he wasn't coming so after a few strong words from Aled from Barn End Cafe he agreed to come at 2.30pm which he did. He spent two hours with Aled, Pam and Heather being given a guided tour of the buildings and finding out what our businesses entailed and how important we were to each other. He was told that the letters

they sent weren't worth the paper they were written on as they cannot give us three months notice to decide if we want to stay if we don't have a copy of the new lease to consider. He has promised to write this week with further information so by the July meeting we should know what is happening. For information to those who didn't know it was explained that Severn Trent Water own the buildings but are rented to Powys County Council for a peppercorn rent of £1 per year (and no – I haven't made a typing error!) We pay £78.75p per month in rent which is very low considering.

Hilda told the group that she had sent a letter to the secretary of the Llanfyllin show to see if it is possible for us to have our marquees there again this year. She had a reply saying that she would take it to their meeting at the end of the month and get back to us. On that note, we would need someone to transport the marquees for us in either a large trailer or van. They are presently stored at Llanwddyn. They would need to be taken to the show ground on the Friday evening for erecting and then taken back after the show has finished on the Saturday evening. We would be happy to pay someone if they can help. Please contact Pam. If anyone has any interesting news that they would like to put in our monthly newsletter please send the details to Hilda.

Treasurer's Report:

As of the 13th June the accounts stand as follows:

Business Money Manager Account: £2582.50

Community Account: £929.11

Angela told the meeting that the fees for the card machine are going up again.

Angela also explained how the group started with a group of 7 members who turned up to a meeting at the Top Shop in Meifod after a call to all artists and crafters in the area. That was in 2005 and we are still going strong!

Craft shows:

Angela is going to make enquiries about having a show in Llanidloes. Hilda commented on taking a table to Bodfach Hall which was very nice but not profitable enough. She sold £23.95 worth of goods but had to pay £10 for the table!

Llanfechain Show: £10 per table. For application form and details ring:

Mrs G Watkin on 01691828394 or Mrs J Row on 01691828077

Canal Festival: Maesbury 6th and 7th October. For more information contact:

Peter Richards 01691 831455 or David Aylwin 01691 830403.

Guilsfield Show: 14th August

Any other business:

Demonstrations at our meetings:

September – Ted Rogers, Boxes, October – Angela, Jewellery, December – Christmas Bash

Demonstration:

Shirley gave a talk about her Ceramics. She uses a process called slip casting whereby liquid clay is poured into moulds. She explained about all the different processes involved and how she cuts out areas to create pattern. It was a very interesting and informative talk. Many thanks to Shirley.

ALL MEMBERS PLEASE NOTE:

The next meeting will be held upstairs in the church in a lovely carpeted room with a kitchen for making our tea and coffee as usual. Please enter through the front door and either take the stairs or the lift. The loo is on the ground floor as you enter the building. We have a choice of which room to use in future.