

Brackenfield Village Association
Minutes of meeting held on Monday 22 October 2018 at 10am at The Old House

Present: Linda Walker, Catherine Tomlinson, Stefan Priest, Cath Pilsbury, Mike Edwards, Christine Edwards

Apologies: Martin Philips, Lynn Keeton,

Minutes of the meeting on 17 September 2018: Read and agreed.

Feedback from Events:

Italian Night:

Reports from people who attended the evening have been overwhelmingly positive about the quality and quantity of the food and the relaxed, happy atmosphere. The Italian theme was popular and there is enthusiasm for another similar event. Thirty three attended. Anthony Spencer assisted on a voluntary basis and brought his portable oven and hobs. The acoustics in the hall make hearing difficult. It would benefit from a lowered ceiling or wall hangings.

Table Top Sale:

This was a very sociable afternoon enjoyed by those who attended. Drinks and cakes sold well. There was a queue at the start but this dwindled quickly and people started to clear up about 3pm. Not all stall holders made a profit and it would have been good to have more customers. If repeated it would be necessary to advertise much more widely and 8 tables would be more comfortable than 10.

Local History Cafe:

The first session on 9 October was attended by fifteen people and feedback has been very positive with many comments that it was very enjoyable. The acoustics in the hall again make hearing difficult for some. Mike and Christine have a meeting with Katherine Brown from Crafting Relationships on 23 October to agree a budget and detailed plan in the light of the successful funding bid from Tesco.

Christmas Tree Switch On - 14th December: Detailed Planning

Same format as last year: gather at 6.30pm; refreshments and raffle tickets; hang decorations on tree; switch-on of lights; carol singing; refreshments and raffle draw at 7.30pm

Tree: Mike will discuss putting lights on tree with John Pearson. Mike has 2 sets of lights.

Decorations: Fairy Lights and welcome ring (Linda and Stefan)

Drinks: (10 red wine and 2 mulling syrup; 3 white wine; prosecco; 3 non-alcoholic mulled wine; juice to dilute) £2.00 for wine and a mince pie; Mince pie 50p; juice free for children. Stefan will serve drinks.

Mince pies: Catherine and Linda will get quotes for 80 home-made mince pies

Children's cakes: Catherine will get 24 fairy cakes

Tableware: Christine has serviettes and will check number of insulated cups

Raffle: Enough prizes collected except for maybe a few bottles. Cath has most of them. Tickets £2 for a strip or 50p each.

Sale: Bears and jam?

Carols: Christine will ask Nigel if we can borrow carol sheets and will get accompaniment to play on I Pod and sound system.

Switch-On: Mike will ask Barry Lewis and also ask Ralph if he will say a few words.

Event Notice: Christine and Cath will apply.

Santa: Mike is following up – has found a sleigh but still trying to contact Santa.

Advertising: Christine will do a poster based on last year's for the notice boards, churches and school. Will ask Martin to put on website and facebook. Has already gone in the September Bulletin. May ask about using boards again on the Green etc.

Risk Assessment: Mike and Stefan to complete a week or two beforehand.

May Bank holiday 2019

Further discussion about what would be feasible during the Flower Festival weekend. It was agreed that it would not be viable to put an event on in the hall without also serving drinks and cakes. Christine will inform the PCC secretary,

Picnic on the Green 2018:

- Martin will ask PC if it is OK to use the Green.
- Christine will ask about booking the Hall.
- Double Cross and Maypole Movers are available.
- Mike will contact Singleton Event First Aid and Bins once confirmed.
- Anne willing to do a dog show.
- Mike to check availability of Clown/Punch and Judy and follow up RAF.
- Possibility of Saxon re-enactment from Regia Anglorum linked to History Cafe

Other event ideas:

Christmas Tree decorations:

Catherine and Linda will sound out local families about a Christmas decoration workshop during the first weekend in December and progress further if there is interest.

Pumpkins:

Gilly has suggested a pumpkin event for October 2019 – growing pumpkins and carving; soup etc. Mike is checking about land that may be available for growing.

Neighbourhood Watch:

Mike and Christine met with Alan Carter, the local co-ordinator. Letters can be circulated with the January Bulletin. If 15% of homes want to sign up there can be a public meeting and launch of a scheme with the police. Committee in favour. Martin will raise at PC meeting.

Dates of next meetings: All at 10am

19th November at The Old House; 3rd December at Holly Cottage

