

Brackenfield Village Association
Minutes of meeting held on Tuesday 23 January 2018 at 10am at Holly Cottage

Present: Stefan Priest, Cath Pilsbury, Martin Philips, Rev'd Ralph Lawrence, Mike Edwards, Lynn Keeton, Christine Edwards

Minutes of the meeting on 30 October 2017: Read and agreed

Matters arising:

Welcome Ring Workshop:

This was very well attended and enjoyed by all. After costs of materials and hall hire, the £150 remaining was donated to Brackenfield Village Association towards future events. Thanks go to Gilly Burnett for organising the event.

Pudding Evening:

This has been arranged for Thursday 1st March. To be advertised in the bulletin and on the website/facebook. Michael Poole has kindly offered to print tickets. Max 40 places. Practical arrangements e.g. hall set up to be discussed at February meeting. It was suggested that a short video should be made at the event and linked to the website.

Spring Bank Holiday:

Due to time constraints it was agreed that it will not be possible to arrange an event for the end of May bank holiday this year, though it is something that could be considered for 2019.

It was suggested that there should be a meeting between the PCC, PC and BVA committee to discuss longer-term planning for the Church Hall including use of the building and finance of day to day running and longer term maintenance costs. RL will discuss further with the PCC.

Awards for All Grant:

Stefan and Christine have submitted a bid for £386 to cover the outstanding cost of the Life Support Training and are awaiting a response.

Correspondence:

Christine has written to Gilly and David Burnett to thank them for hosting the Welcome Ring workshop and for their kind donation of £150 to BVA.

Christmas Tree Switch On:

This was a successful evening enjoyed by those who attended. Thanks go to Rev'd Lawrence for switching on the lights with the assistance of all the children! Mulled wine was popular; tea and coffee less so. Next time it might be better to make soup available in the main hall. It was suggested that next year we order a slightly bigger tree (15') and invite Santa to turn the lights on. Thanks go to Keith and Dean from Ogston Hall for setting up and taking down the tree. Refreshments and the raffle raised £189. After costs, there was a profit of £70 to carry forward, however it must be remembered that refreshments and raffle prizes were donated. Ongoing support by the community is required to ensure that events are sustainable.

- Cath will try to find out about Santa in Wessington, who was about on the same evening and may be able to visit us next year.
- Christine will write to David and Caroline Wakefield to thank them for their support regarding the Christmas Tree.
- Provisional date: Friday 14th December 2018
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Annual General Meeting:

Arranged provisionally for Thursday 3rd May 2018 at 6.30pm. Christine will check availability of the Church Hall with Nigel and book, after which it can be advertised in the Bulletin and on the website.

Brackenfield Bulletin Edition 4:

Michael Poole has kindly offered to photocopy the Bulletin. Christine will email it to him once the AGM date is fixed. Martin, Stefan and Mike/Christine will distribute the Bulletin by the end of January.

Future Events:

History Group: Mike outlined an emerging interest in local history which is being developed through research for the Neighbourhood Plan. He has several ideas for possible events focusing on historic figures with local connections:

- A relative of Gladwyn Turbutt was killed during the first world war. As it is the centenary year, an exhibition about his life, in the Church or at Ogston Hall (if they are having their open days this year) could be interesting.
- Mike is also researching Ben Smith, a polar explorer whose mother was from Alfreton and who was the uncle of Florence Nightingale. Tales about him and his family could be a good focus for a supper evening. Mike is following leads regarding possible story telling or dramatisation.
- Mike is also following up contacts with Leicestershire Museum Services regarding their "History Cafe" project.
- Martin suggested Overton Hall (Discovery of Australia) could be another idea.

Whist nights: Linda Walker is speaking to various whist groups in the area, with a view to a spring event in Brackenfield.

Picnic on the Green: Sunday 15 July from 11am to 5pm

Laura from the Plough will do a cake stall and judge the Bake-Off.

Mike should have news of his RAF fly-past request by the next meeting.

Mike has invited a few car clubs along to display their vehicles and boost numbers.

Welly wanging was popular and may be repeated and a tug or war was suggested; also an auction. It was suggested that a Pimms/punch stall (alcoholic and non-alcoholic versions) would be popular and profitable. If the Plough want to do a bar we would need to check with them and agree a fee or percentage. Further details to be discussed at the next meeting.

- Lynn will approach some craft makers who might provide stalls e.g. willow weaving, with the emphasis on demonstrations or having a go. They need their own insurance and gazebo/tables etc. and the charge would be £10 for the day.
- Martin will ask Bex if she is willing to organise an event for children this year.

Finance:

Mike summarised the accounts for the year so far and the projected budget for the coming year. An additional £327 is required to cover committed spending, which should be covered by grants and income from other events.

- A costing sheet will be produced for each event to provide data about costs, donations and income.

Any other business:

Grants:

Martin has recently attended a training session for Parish Councillors and has given Christine copies of documents regarding bidding for grants and sources of funding.

Dates of next meetings: All at Holly Cottage at 10am, except for the AGM

21 February; 21 March; 18 April; 3 May at 6.30pm at the Church Hall (AGM); 30 May; 27 June; 1 July

