

Brackenfield Village Association
Minutes of meeting held on Monday 17th July 2023 at 1.30pm at Green Farm

Present: Linda Walker, Catherine Tomlinson, Stefan Priest, Cath Pilsbury, Pat O'Brien, Diane Hooton, Lynn Keeton, Christine Edwards

Minutes of the meeting on 3rd February 2023 and the AGM on 23rd May 2023

Agreed.

Church Hall update following the public meeting on 8th July:

There has been considerable interest in keeping the hall functioning as a community resource, much of it from residents in Wessington. There is a further meeting on 18th July at which it is hoped to form a steering group. An option of joint management between Brackenfield Church and representatives of the local community is being explored. It is understood that some grants such as for improvements to the heating and kitchen may be available in these circumstances. If it proves necessary to separate from the Church in order to qualify for grants, the setting up of an entity such as a Community Benefit Society may be another option. There has been some discussion about changing the name of the hall. There are strong feelings about this amongst residents, so any change is likely to be deferred until such a time as there is an active steering group who can conduct a proper consultation. Stefan agreed to email Lynn a few helpful pointers.

Events

Sunday 10th September: Pop-Up Tea Room with Plants and Produce; Lynn will ask stall holders

Friday 16th December AT 6.30pm: Christmas Tree switch on with refreshments, secret raffle and carols.

March 2024: Christine will ask Laura about hosting an Italian Evening

It was agreed that proceeds from the September and March events would be donated to the Village Hall Kitchen Development Fund.

Brackenfield Heritage Café: The season ended well with 30 attendees at Tony Kellett's presentation on birds of the world. There are 55 people on the mailing list and attendance is regularly 20 to 30 with visitors from our area and surrounding villages. A team of four are managing the project with regular helpers setting up and assisting with refreshments. Now self-sustaining, speakers are lined up for next season starting on 12th October.

Neighbourhood Watch: The first drop-in session was attended by two officers from the Safer Neighbourhood Team and about 15 local residents. The second was less well attended, though information and stickers were later taken round School Lane by a volunteer. Every home in the parish received a flyer and information about how to join the scheme if they wish. Thanks to those who helped Christine with refreshments and hosting. Christine is continuing as Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator for the moment as nobody has stepped forward.

Next Committee Meeting:

Monday 6th November at 1.30pm at Green Farm