

**Minutes of the Connect General Meeting
7th November 2017
Radnorshire Arms**

Present: Chair: Leon Abercasis (LA) Peter Mace (PM) David Tennant-Eyles (DTE) Eva Venny (EV) Colin Felgate (CF)

Minute Taker: Francesca Sandwell

Apologies: James Tennant-Eyles (JTE) Mark Hughes (MH)

	Item	Action
1.	<p>Minutes of the last meeting</p> <p>The minutes of the last meeting were discussed and approved.</p> <p>LA updated that since the last meeting the Wine Tasting event had been cancelled and that it would be rearranged for the new year.</p>	
2.	<p>Treasurer's Report</p> <p>Current balancer stands at £3,656.59. The previous balance was £4,221.00</p> <p>Income in for October included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £20 subscription from McCartney's Estate Agents <p>Outgoings included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £25 to pay FS • £43.20 for the cost of the raffle tickets • £387 for the annual insurance • £330 to Powys County Council for the cost of the road closure for the Christmas fair <p>Outgoings in November include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £21 for a temporary event license • £40 for a lottery license 	
3.	<p>Christmas Fair</p> <p>DTE updated that he had booked Scrappies and Mr Bamboozle but had been unable to confirm with Jack the Jester. DTE stated that the poster could not be printed until Jack's attendance was confirmed. It was stressed by the group that as the event was only 4 weeks away the poster needed to go out now.</p> <p>JP Turners, LA's hot dog stall, Weobley Ash, Pie Creator, the Playgroup, the Flower Shop, Fox Glass, Ducks Nest, the Hatshop, Lorna's, Haynes and Nigel and Sonia Williams who will be selling local trees and wreaths had all been confirmed.</p> <p>Action: PM will speak to stall holders to find out what each intends to sell so there is no conflict.</p>	PM

	<p>Action: DTE to speak to Richard Pitts and get the contact details for the people who make samosas etc and invite them to have a stall.</p> <p>Action: DTE to speak to Rose Bamford about who supplied the sausages on bonfire night.</p> <p>Action: CF stated that he will ask Teresa to remind people again for tombola prizes.</p> <p>DTE confirmed that £221 worth of raffle tickets had been sold including £90 which he and his family had made last Saturday at a stall on the high street. DTE stated he would be doing this again the following Saturday and asked if anyone else could do a stint on any of the other Saturdays.</p> <p>Raffle tickets have been distributed to some shops on the High Street. DTE will go round at the weekend and check on progress.</p> <p>CF reported that he and Lucette had met the previous week to discuss the items in storage. Lucette updated CF that there were 78 presents left over for the grotto and that Lucette would buy a further 120.</p> <p>CF stated that he had checked the lights and confirmed there were 19 sets of battery lights for the Christmas trees. DTE stated that he had one set. CF will go to Wilkinson's in Hereford and buy a further 5 sets of lights.</p> <p>DTE has spoken to Mary Lestrangle about feeding power from her property to light up the Christmas tree.</p> <p>Lucette will speak to Dilwyns about hosting the Grotto.</p> <p>Lucette has also found 38 glow sticks and 3 packs of glow bands. DTE will speak to Lucette about buying enough for the primary school.</p> <p>DTE confirmed that he needed 200 screw cap empty wine bottles for the Blotto Lotto game at the fair. PM stated that he had plenty he could donate.</p> <p>Action: DTE to confirm a date for wrapping presents and bottles at the Workhouse with Rose Bamford.</p>	<p>DTE</p> <p>DTE</p> <p>CF</p> <p>DTE</p>
<p>4.</p>	<p>Recycling Site</p> <p>LA stated that he thought that it would be good if Connect members could get involved with the Recycling site as the team made a generous donation to Connect.</p> <p>It was agreed that this would be good for Connect member to put in a few hours each month.</p> <p>Action: LA to speak to Gerry who co-ordinates the site and discuss how Connect can help.</p> <p>LA reported that he could get the combination of the padlock for the</p>	<p>LA</p>

	<p>shed.</p> <p>It was discussed whether Connect should hold a pre-Christmas drinks to thank everyone for their efforts. However, no date was set.</p>	
5.	<p>Members</p> <p>DTE stated that there were 16 members on the email list but not all of them were active or had paid their subscriptions.</p> <p>Action: DTE to send out an email reminding active and inactive members to pay their subscriptions.</p> <p>LA reported that Connect needed to focus its efforts on finding new people to join.</p> <p>EV confirmed that this had been mentioned to those who attended the last Food and Flower Festival meeting.</p> <p>It was felt that Connect needed to publicise itself more in the community and involve itself more in community activities such as adopting the charity fun day and helping with Sheep Music's plan to construct a community barn on Went's Meadow.</p> <p>It was agreed that Connect needed to set itself objectives for the year to come in an effort to make itself more sustainable.</p> <p>DTE stated that it was not easy to reinforce Connect's mission statement if Connect did not get buy-in from the High Street and that this needed to be strengthened.</p> <p>LA reported that Powys County Council was not going to make the shoppers car park free for the community but that they would install a 2-ticket system in the future for £180. However, as previously discussed, this scheme would need shops on the high street to get involved so shoppers could redeem the cost of their ticket.</p> <p>It was decided that Connect should cover the cost of the new parking metre as this would be good publicity for the group. A board could be placed in the car park highlighting the scheme and Connect's work. It would also need to be marketed to all shops in Presteigne.</p> <p>CF suggested that a meeting should be held in the new year to promote the idea to local businesses and shops.</p> <p>Action: LA to send an email to Cllr Bev Baynham to inform her of Connect's plans re the car park.</p>	<p>DTE</p> <p>LA</p>
6.	AOB	
7.	<p>Date and venue of the next meeting</p> <p>Monday 4th December in Radnorshire Arms</p>	