

**Presteigne and Norton Chamber of Trade
Minutes of the General Meeting on 2nd October 2017
Radnorshire Arms Meeting Room**

Present: Chair: Leon Abercasis (LA) David Tennant-Eyles (DTE) Eva Venny (EV)
Colin Felgate (CF) Mary Cobbett (MC)

Minute taker: Francesca Sandwell (FS)

Apologies: Peter Mace (PM) Mark Hughes (MH) Ann Wake (AW) Vikki Hobson (VH)

	Item	Action
1.	Minutes from the last meeting	
	LA stated that the minutes and actions from the last Connect meeting on 3 rd July 2017 should be suspended since so much time had passed.	
2.	Treasurers Report	
	<p>DTE updated that since the last meeting on 11th September the following amounts had been paid out:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £74.41 to Artisan Print for the flyers used at the Presteigne Carnival • £25 to FS • £261.55 paid to LA for the free parking initiative • £2,065 to Sheep Music for the Awards for All event <p>Money in included</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £847.91 from the recycling group <p>The current balance stands at £4,221.24</p> <p>DTE stated that Connect was nearly out of flyers so the group might wish to order more.</p> <p>DTE also highlighted that Connect's insurance was due on 18th October and that this would amount to £386. Connect members also needed to take into consideration the cost of the Christmas lights, which would cost £1,600.</p> <p>It was agreed that there was no need to update the name of the group's bank account from Chamber of Trade to Connect.</p>	
3.	Christmas Fayre	
	DTE explained that he was happy to take on the organization of the Christmas Fayre and that it would follow the same format at the previous year. DTE will request help from those people who were involved last year.	

	<p>DTE confirmed that the date of the Fayre would be Friday 8th December and would start at 3:30pm when the children finished at school.</p> <p>Historically, the Christmas Fayre has always been run at a loss but it is hoped that the inclusion of a raffle might help the event to break even. A lottery license will need to be sought.</p> <p>DTE stated that to ensure the event was a success it needed the support of traders on the High Street. Stallholders from outside Presteigne would need to be vetted to ensure that they were not in competition with local businesses from Presteigne.</p> <p>A meeting to discuss the Christmas Fayre will be held on 16th October to decide who will be assigned to each task.</p> <p>It was agreed that Connect should have a presence at the Fayre, highlighting its achievements and plans for the future. It was agreed that rather than having a stand-alone stall, Connect stand should be linked to LA's food stall where flyers could be handed out.</p> <p>DTE raised the subject of the Christmas lights. Historically, the Chamber of Trade dealt with the lights and received a grant from the Town Council. However, now that Connect receives money from the recycling this is used to cover the cost of the lights and the insurance required. DTE questioned whether Connect should continue to pay for the lights in the future and if the money from the recycling could be used for the community in other ways. As not enough members were present, this issue could not be voted on. A decision would need to be reached before January 2018. This could be done via email.</p>	
4.	Fundraising Function	
	<p>LA stated that Connect needed to host 3 events a year in order to generate income. An event at the Memorial Hall hosting 120 people could raise at least £1,000.</p> <p>LA indicated that he was keen to organize another flamenco evening after the success of the previous event. This would be held in February 2018.</p>	
5.	Wine tasting function date	
	<p>LA confirmed that he and MH would be hosting a wine tasting event on Friday 10th November to raise money for the Food and Flower Festival in May 2018.</p> <p>It was agreed that this event needed to be picked up separately by LA, MH, PM and DTE.</p>	

	It is estimated that the cost of the Food and Flower Festival will be roughly £5,000. It was felt that the group needed to focus on the finances and come up with an itemized list of how much it will cost and how much still needed to be raised.	
6.	AOB	
7.	Date and venue of next meeting	
	7 th November at the Radnorshire Arms	