

**Minutes from the Connect General Meeting
9th April 2019
Leon's House, Prestige**

Present: Chair: Leon Abecasis (LA) Eva Venny (EV) David Tennant Eyles (DTE) Helena Atlee (HA) Annemarie Roberts (AR) Grace Loveday (GL) Marian Rowlatt (MR)

Minute Taker: Francesca Sandwell (FS)

Apologies: Sabina Rüber (SR) David Pickersgill (DP) Colin Felgate (CF)

	Item	Action
1.	<p>Minutes from the meeting on 5th March 2019</p> <p>The minutes were agreed as a true and accurate reflection of the previous meeting.</p> <p>Actions:-</p> <p>Presteigne and Norton Business Directory – LA updated that nothing further had happened with this</p> <p>Plastic Free Presteigne – EV reported that this was launched at the market on Saturday. EV asked whether Connect could support this initiative with a £100 donation. This was agreed.</p> <p>Action: EV to provide DTE with the bank details so that Connect can make a £100 donation to Plastic Free Presteigne</p> <p>It was agreed that Connect should help promote Plastic Free Presteigne and encourage other businesses to get involved, LA will promote on social media and it was suggested that leaflets could publicise the initiative.</p> <p>Working together – EV and LA went to a meeting organised by PAC. It emphasised that Connect, PAC, Sheep Music, the Carnival were all doing similar things and were struggling with finances, resources and volunteers so these needed to be pooled going forward. EV queried whether other groups knew about the gazebos that were available to borrow.</p>	<p>EV and DTE</p>
2.	<p>Treasurers report</p> <p>The current balance stands at £2,874.73</p> <p>There has been a lot of money going in and out of the account because of the Food and Flower Festival.</p> <p>Further funds to go out of the account include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Temporary event notice - Road closure - Hire of St Andrew's Hall 	

	<p>- Printing of roadside signs and flyers and programmes</p> <p>There are still 10 stalls that have not yet paid and the 3 workshops will cost £75 each to put on.</p> <p>A fundraising event will take place after the Food and Flower Festival.</p>	
3.	<p>Bring Site</p> <p>Currently 86.6% of the income from the Bring Site comes from the green waste. However, this will soon be removed. This will leave a large gap in Connect's finances and the team will need to look at fundraising to pay for the organisation's fixed costs such insurance, hosting of the website etc.</p> <p>DTE confirmed that the secretary was no longer being paid, which had been the suggestion of FS over a year ago.</p> <p>There is no budget for events but capital will need to be raised in order to put on future events.</p> <p>LA suggested that a monthly car boot could be held at Went's Meadow to raise money.</p> <p>DTE indicated that he would do some research into support from Welsh Government. Another idea suggested was the 'Presteigne Pound' where Presteigne would have its own currency to encourage people to spend their money locally.</p> <p>Seminars were suggested as another idea for raising money with speakers being booked to talk about social media, accounting and entrepreneurship and a small price being charged for admission.</p>	
4.	<p>Members Drive</p> <p>LA raised that this had been discussed many times before. HA suggested that if Connect was to organise a monthly car boot then they could use these events as an opportunity to promote Connect.</p>	
5.	<p>Food and Flower Festival</p> <p>LA thanked everyone for their help in putting up the signs in both Powys and Herefordshire. It was agreed that a sign was needed for Coombe Corner for next year.</p> <p>EV and LA have both been out distributing leaflets.</p> <p>Cakes for Louisa and Ben's open garden was discussed. It was agreed that Connect would pay someone local to make tray bakes and that members of Connect would also contribute cakes as well.</p> <p>Action: Everyone to decided how many cakes they could</p>	

<p>provide and let EV know</p> <p>LA has spoken to Powys County Council and Jo Weale regarding emptying of the bins before the festival.</p> <p>EV updated that Terry Wells has spoken to the man who normally empties the bins and he is on holiday that weekend. It was queried whether Cllr Beverley Baynham would be able to assist.</p> <p>LA has spoken to the Headteacher at John Beddoes about parking there and it has been agreed.</p> <p>LA is waiting for Presteigne and Norton Town Council to come back about using Went's Meadow for parking.</p> <p>EV has not yet had a response from the Scouts as to how many people will help with the parking at Went's Meadow.</p> <p>Last year Sally Butler paid £20 to boost Connect on social media. It was agreed that this was good publicity and the same should be done again this year.</p> <p>DP will ask stallholders to bring their own gazebos as currently we are 4/5 short. LA will promote on social media. MR will ask St. Andrew's.</p> <p>DTE will speak to JTE about high vis vests.</p> <p>Setting up – DP will be at St Andrew's and HA will be at the top of the High Street. Time slots will be allocated to stagger the arrival of stallholders.</p> <p>Someone will be required to manage the Memorial Hall car park to ensure that stallholders park properly.</p> <p>Cones will need to be borrowed from the police to reserve space outside the Assembly Rooms. FS will ask police for the parking cones.</p> <p>First aid – EV has found a company who will provide this on the day for £160. A risk assessment will be required.</p> <p>There will be 6 volunteers from the Carnival. 3 for the morning and 3 for the afternoon. Vouchers will be available for the volunteers so that they can claim money for a meal from the food court.</p> <p>Toilets – the Oak and Wine Bar will be open as well as the Assembly Rooms and Church Hall.</p> <p>DTE to give EV money for petty cash.</p> <p><u>Areas of responsibility</u></p> <p>LA – High Street EV – Broad Street and Church Yard</p>	<p>All</p>
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	<p>DP – Food Court Alison Parry – Assembly Rooms Alec Ramsey – photography (EV to brief) SR – plants stalls, balloons and floral creations.</p> <p>Those people doing workshops will need to send in an invoice and then DTE will pay them online.</p>	
9.	AOB	
10.	<p>Date and venue of next meeting:</p> <p>Food and Flower Festival – 23rd April 2019</p>	