

**Minutes from the Connect General Meeting  
4<sup>th</sup> September 2018  
The Salty Dog, Presteigne**

**Present:** Chair Leon Abecasis (LA) Eva Venny (EV) Helena Attlee (HA) Sabiha Ruber (SR)  
Colin Felgate (CF)

**Minute Taker:** Francesca Sandwell (FS)

**Apologies:** David Tennant-Eyles (DTE) James Tennant-Eyles (JTE) Ann Wake (AW)  
Marion Rowlatt (MR) David Pickersgill (DP)

	Item	Action
1.	<p><b>Minutes from the meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> August 2018</b></p> <p>The minutes were agreed as a true and accurate reflection of the previous meeting.</p> <p>Actions:-</p> <p>HA to look at the membership form and make suggestions of how it can be more user friendly – carry over</p> <p>LA to send some wording for the newsletter to HA – completed</p> <p>EV to draft and email for LA and HA to approve which can be sent to all members asking them to vote on which idea they liked the best – completed</p> <p>MR will ask the vicar how much it will cost to have the church open for the Christmas Fayre – completed</p> <p>LA to speak to Sally Butler and see if she would be happy to give a talk on social media on 3<sup>rd</sup> October – completed</p> <p>LA to follow up with the flamenco dancers and see if they are available for the fundraising event – completed</p> <p>LA to speak to Sally Butler about the design of a website for the Food and Flower Festival – carry over</p>	
2.	<p><b>PACDG</b></p> <p>EV reported that she had received an email from PACDG asking is we could work closer together with them. This does not mean that Connect and PACDG would merge and become one group, but instead that we could share our resources, enjoy closer co-operation and have a pool of people for events.</p> <p>EV will be the representative from Connect and will attend their meetings every month.</p>	

	<p>It was agreed that Connect should invite someone from PACDG to attend Connect's monthly meetings.</p>	
3.	<p><b>Workshop</b></p> <p>It had previously been suggested that Connect would ask Sally Butler to run a workshop on social media, but unfortunately she was unavailable</p> <p>LA asked HA if she would be willing to facilitate a workshop.</p> <p>HA stated that she had run something in the past around how to build a narrative and identity of your business online so could potentially do something similar.</p> <p>EV stated that the workshop didn't need to be about social media.</p> <p>HA felt that it would be good to conduct some market research before an event was organised.</p> <p>EV agreed and indicated that the session could be a way for people to come and meet Connect and tell the group what they needed from us.</p> <p>It was agreed that this event could be hosted in either January or February 2019. This event would need to be promoted at least 2 months in advance and could be done so through the PACDG newsletter, as well as the Connect newsletter and posters.</p> <p><b>Action: HA to draft some wording for the event in January/February to be approved at the December meeting</b></p>	HA
4.	<p><b>Membership database</b></p> <p>LA reported that he had received the spreadsheet of who had paid their membership from DTE and that he had emailed this to EV.</p> <p>The member database needed to ensure that it include the date that people had paid so that this information was all in one place.</p> <p>Once new members have paid, LA will send the welcome pack. This will include a copy of the Chairman's report about what Connect had been achieved throughout the year.</p> <p>The Christmas fayre will be an ideal opportunity to bring more people on-board.</p> <p><b>Action: LA, HA and SR to meet to discuss the welcome pack for new members.</b></p>	LA, HA, SR
5.	<p><b>Christmas Fayre update</b></p> <p>LA reported that a meeting had been held recently where it was</p>	

	<p>agreed that the venue of the Christmas Fayre would move to the area around St Andrew's church.</p> <p>Since then, LA has met with MR and DP to discuss the site and logistics. DP is still unsure about the access. It is hoped that at least 12 stalls can be fitted into the church and St Andrew's is very happy to combine their Christmas Fayre with Connect's but will need to confirm this with their committee.</p> <p>The church warden has offered to help with the lighting and the western door will be opened.</p> <p>There will be 6 food stalls in the court yard area of the hall. The Hat Shop has said they would be happy to sell turkey sandwiches and the Fish and Chip shop will serve chips. Organisers will ensure that the other stall holders do not sell food that clashes with food businesses in Presteigne.</p> <p>It was suggested that Connect needed to approach gift shops in Presteigne for first refusal.</p> <p>Owen Rimmington will be asked to design the grotto.</p> <p>HA suggested that About Face theatre company <a href="http://www.aboutfacetheatre.org.uk/">http://www.aboutfacetheatre.org.uk/</a> could be asked to perform in the church. The cost would be £200 but this could be covered if a small fee was charged to watch them perform. This will be discussed at the next Christmas Fayre meeting.</p> <p>It was agreed that Connect would invite Jack the Jester and the other entertainers to perform at the Christmas Fayre.</p> <p>LA has also made another site visit with Rory Bennett to discuss the lights. CF offered to help Rory put up the lights on the 7<sup>th</sup> December.</p> <p><b>Action: LA to circulate a list via email listing the shops he has approached about having a stall at the Christmas Fayre.</b></p>	LA
6.	<p><b>Food and Flower Festival</b></p> <p>LA stated that the group needed to start discussing this so plans could be put in place for the following year.</p> <p><b>Action: LA to speak to Sally Butler about a website for the Food and Flower Festival.</b></p>	LA
7.	<p><b>AOB</b></p> <p>Flamenco night –</p> <p>This is set to take place on 6<sup>th</sup> October. LA needs to get posters designed and tickets need to be sold.</p>	

	<p>LA to speak to DTE about designing a poster.</p> <p>The plan is to sell 120 tickets at £25 per person. The cost of putting on the event will be £150 for the hire of the hall, £350 for the flamenco dancers and £600 for the cost of the food. Guests will be seated on long tables with no allocated seating and the menu will consist of olives and bread on the table, meatballs, chicken and chorizo, paella and almond tart with ice cream.</p> <p>Volunteers will be needed to work in the kitchen and wait on tables. The Dukes will run the bar. LA will send an email asking for volunteers. SR stated that she was happy to work in the kitchen.</p> <p>LA explained that he would be going on holiday from 13<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>st</sup> September. Concern was raised that this did not leave enough time to organise the event. However, LA stated that this wouldn't be a problem, however. LA decided to postpone the event until the new year, date TBC</p> <p>Plastic Free Presteigne –</p> <p>HA highlighted the work of Surfers Against Sewage and their website which encouraged people to become community leaders and provided support to do so.</p> <p>It was discussed whether it was the place of Connect to lead on this project or whether Transition should spearhead the campaign.</p> <p>EV stated that in the PACDG minutes it said that Transition would lead on this project.</p> <p><b>Action: HA to contact Wendy Toomey to discuss whether Transition could lead on Plastic Free Presteigne.</b></p> <p>Mrs Wood's birthday present –</p> <p>EV and CF will represent Connect and present Mrs Wood with her present from Connect on 15<sup>th</sup> September.</p>	<p>HA</p>
<p>8.</p>	<p><b>Date and venue of next meeting:</b> 2nd October Leon's House</p>	