

**Minutes from the Connect General Meeting
10th July 2018
The Salty Dog, Presteigne**

Present: Chair Leon Abecasis (LA) David Tennant-Eyles (DTE) James Tennant-Eyles (JTE) Ann Wake (AW) Helena Attlee (HA) David Pickergill (DP)

Minute Taker: Eva Venny (EV)

Apologies: Sabina Rueber, Francesca Sandwell, Anne-Marie Roberts, Mark Hughes, Colin Felgate

	Item	Action
1.	<p>Matters arising:</p> <p>Membership: Sarah (Workhouse) had stated she would re-join. Judges Lodging, The Hat Shop and Presteigne Tyres are also interested. DP will join</p> <p>Action: LA to circulate forms for people to fill in asap</p> <p>Mrs Woods Present: JTE brought the bowl and stand for all to see and the wording for the plaque was agreed</p> <p>Money to PAC: JTE has spoken to Terry Wells (PAC) about the distribution of these monies and they feel there should be some parameters/time limits set for how the money is used. A subcommittee may be needed. Presteigne Trust also had a sum of £ 500.- annually to give and they have a similar set of rules – it may make sense to do this as a joint venture – PT, PAC and Connect. There was general agreement that we would advertise the fact and invite applications from people/organisations to apply for funds. JTE will draft a letter for publicity and application for the next meeting.</p> <p>Minutes from the meeting on 19th June 2018 were agreed</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">LA</p> <p style="text-align: center;">JTE</p>
2.	<p>Christmas Fayre:</p> <p>DP suggested that possibly some of the Farmers Market vendors would come as we now have the Gazebos, JP Turners were always good and craft stalls should be of decent quality. We need plenty to keep people engaged – in his experience there will be mostly families with children between 4 and 5pm – after that more adults that will spend money – so drinks stalls and hot snacks are needed.</p> <p>The suggested Winter Wonderland near the Church sounded lovely but people felt that it is a long way from the High Street – especially in inclement weather – AW suggested that Richard and Miranda’s Courtyard might be a suitable location for the Wonderland/Grotto – LA will ask them. DTE pointed out that Judges Lodgings had been used before and was another possibility.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">LA</p>

	<p>EV reported that hiring 2 reindeer for the evening would cost £500.- they are used to people and children could have photos taken etc. It was agreed that this was something we could work towards for maybe next year as we would have to drop Jack the Jester (fire eater) who costs £ 350.- but is very popular and very good value for money.</p> <p>AW suggested we tell all traders about the Fayre, road closure etc asap – via website and community newsletter to avoid upsets</p> <p>Xmas subcommittee will be: LA, EV, DTE, DP, AW and they will start to meet in the near future</p>	JTE
3.	<p>Carnival stall manning:</p> <p>JTE and DTE will be there a lot of the time, LA can be there after 4pm, HA may have some time</p>	
4.	<p>Fundraising Event – 21st October</p> <p>LA has spoken with Brian from the twinning committee telling him that we could not give him 50% of any profits – Brian will talk to his committee in turn about this and a possible donation/future event. In the meantime LA will organise an fundraising event for us on 21st October.</p>	
5.	<p>AOB</p> <p>Plastic Free Powys: at the meeting attended by EV and LA the groups reported what is being done already (bags for life). It was agreed that EV and Wendy (Transition) would talk to shops regarding their use of plastics. The Primary School is involved with several projects including designing a ‘Plastic Free Presteigne’ logo. [other suggestions were: LA to speak to Chinese takeaway about alternative to plastic; a plastic free month with local shops]</p> <p>DTE suggested that Connect could help with looking into alternatives for packaging as well as promote the new logo</p> <p>Dark Skies Community: A letter from Connect in support of this project was sent as agreed</p>	<p>EV</p> <p>LA</p>
6.	<p>Date and venue of next meeting: 7th August 2018 above the Salty Dog.</p>	