Cwmni Cymunedol Cletwr

Minutes of Board meeting 12.01.23

Present: Cath Lloyd Williams (Chair), Barry Wise (Treasuer), Chloe Birds (Business Manager) , Helen Ovens, Derval Casey, Rose Phillips (Secretary), Kim Holland (Staff representative)

Observers: Jane Nicholls, Jane Whittaker, Rachel Behan

Apologies Cindy Harris, Ant Jarrett

Minutes: no minutes from previous meeting as secretary absent, action plan circulated.

Ten year celebrations

Date agreed as 13 May 23. Ideas discussed; agreed would be minimal cost and to probably include BBQ with band and children's activities. To investigate whether Wildfowler would link and make it village event with earlier activities in Cletwr and evening to move to pub.

Grants to be investigated- Cronfa Eleri for digital story telling piece, link with schools and young people. CCC and Community Councils and PTA for community support. Awards for All (Lottery) application was not successful.

Finance

a. Concern about increasing cost of energy. Our fixed contract has just finished meaning the bill will now increase from c 7k per annum to c28k per annum. This includes the offsetting from the solar panels, which will help the costs in the summer time. Discussion held re fridges and how to use them more efficiently. Investigations re the use of other power uses, suggestions included whether to make just cold food offer, turning off ice cream freezer in winter, looking at lighting and heating, keeping front door closed etc.

b. The volunteers taking over some of the bookkeeping after the loss of Sue is welcome support, but there is still catching up to do. The bank balance has been falling over the last few months as this is always quiet time of year with the VAT quarter coming up and anticipated large electric bill, there is concern re the cash flow. Our substantial reserves have been used over the last two years due to the impact of covid. Agreed where staff leave we cannot replace at present. Discussion re our commitment to the RLW vs minimum wage. Staff rep commented staff had said they would rather have a job than no job. Agreed this needs more information on financial position before being considered. Last year we operated at a loss and heading that way again. Discussed importance of volunteers to support staffing.

c. Thanks given to treasurer and the business manager for the time they have spent on the finance. Also to the new voluntary bookkeepers for their contribution.

Landscaping

a. The gardening group report they had a planning meeting in September and have two new members. Over winter they have focused on maintenance and planted some new shrubs. The plant stand has been successful and generated donations towards the garden.

b. The next Pollinator Day is planned for Sunday 21st of May.

c. The group appreciate the many positive comments they receive.

Operational

a. Slow start to the Christmas period but busy in the last couple of weeks. Veg boxes and hampers sold well. Just after Xmas was also busy, and café offers have also gone well.

b. Consideration to be given to - year round hampers for occasions e.g. Easter / Mother's Day etc; veg. boxes; and Friday night meals as in Covid; increasing price of second hand books.

c. Observers left the meeting while a discussion was held on staffing matters including training and reviews.

Communications

a. Date for open evening agreed as 16th Feb. All interested to be asked and the evening to be run as feedback meeting to give every one chance to give their views. Follow up action from AGM.

b. Thanks to all for maintaining communications and keeping them bilingual.

AOB

a. Jane Nicholls' application for the Board was accepted and she was confirmed as a member of the Board.

Dates

Next Board meetings 30th March, 27th April.