

Friends of Llanspyddid

Minutes for Annual General Meeting, 11th September 2011

Meeting started at 6.10pm

Those Present: Vera Davies, David Davies, Cath Williams, Sunita Welch, Brad Welch, Pauline Hill, Barry Hill, Mr & Mrs Timewell, Alison Williams, Kathryn Powell, Gaynor Pugh

Brad Welch opened the meeting, thanking everyone for attending and welcoming Mr & Mrs Timewell to the village. He continued by giving a review of the year:-

Bonfire Night – fireworks and BBQ

Christmas tree decorating – children making decorations, roast chestnuts and mulled wine

Pancake races – organised by Kathryn, children's and adult's races

Royal Wedding Party – food brought to share, music by Kathryn and Martha, crown competition, horse race. Glyn Tarell Community Council donated £75 towards this event

Churchyard working parties – graves cleared and new gravel put down, ironwork painted

Summer BBQ – no rain! Chinese auction, races for all ages, cake comp, plant sale

Bingo nights – covering costs

Coffee mornings – first one very successful but numbers dwindled and no-one come forward to rotate organising them. Gaynor ran gentle exercises and is willing to run them weekly

Garden Party – Vera and David held this in their garden and raised £273 for the church.

Llanfaes stall raised £50

Plant sales - Cath Williams has been selling plants from her garden gate for the playground fund and has so far raised over £90

Playground – new swings installed and old one converted for use by infants. The 'sputnik' roundabout was renovated. Steve Butcher from Powys has written a letter detailing cost which will assist with further applications. Glyn Tarell Community Council donated £500 towards the playground fund (we applied for £4000).

Beacons Trust Application is nearly ready to go – they hopefully will fund more natural things like willow tunnel, apple trees, rocks etc

Brad went on to thank everyone for their hard work. He highlighted Pat and Alan for their work at the Glyn Tarell Community Council meetings making sure our voice is heard. Also highlighted were Reverend Tim Williams and the church wardens for allowing us to use the church and church field for meetings and events.

Election of Officers

Chair Person: Brad Welch

Treasurer: Rob Griffiths

Secretary: Pauline Hill

Vice Chair: Peter James

All Officers were elected en mass

Proposed: Vera Davies

Seconded: Alison Williams

Future events

Harvest Festival - 29th September in the church. All welcome

Bonfire Night – Saturday 5th November

Marquee is booked to arrive Friday. Put up Friday or Saturday morning. Fireworks in field behind Idris.

Brad to check with Edwin

Food will be soup and snacks – Onion soup and bhajis made from onions left over from previous BBQs.

Bread rolls, hot chocolate, mulled cider also available. Ideas for other snacks needed or bring to share.

Other activities – apple bobbing, sparklers for all including adults, glow sticks for youngest children

Christmas tree decorating

Date to be arranged for early December (tentatively first weekend in December), as we would like to have carols on the same day so need to liaise with Tim.

Suggestion for children to make decoration for the top.

Brad has poles and baubles. Rob has the cable

Ask Community Council for £50 towards the tree although Alison will ask Pen Pont

A suggestion was made to see if members of the choir would be interested in singing at the Christmas event. Brad to speak to Peter.

Playground

Keep going with applications to Beacons Trust and Heritage Lottery Fund For All

Future of the Church

David and Vera Davies brought to our attention their fears that the church could be facing financial difficulties due to the small number in the congregation. They highlighted the fact that The Church for Wales does not provide any funds for maintenance of the church and the congregation have a quota that they are supposed to provide towards the vicar's wages. Currently they are behind on the payments and David mentioned a structural problem that will need addressing in the near future.

This is the only community space in the village and we need to find a way that we can protect it and perhaps make it more useable. Many ideas were suggested and it was agreed that it was necessary to talk to Tim and the Church Wardens to sound out possibilities.

Any other business

Mr and Mrs Timewell raised questions regarding dog fouling in the village, noting that as a dog owner he would like to think that other dog owners practiced responsible behaviour.

Mr and Mrs Timewell also asked for information on the speed limit on the A40 through the village. The group explained the history behind petitions to the Welsh Government and the current state of affairs.

It was also noted that members of the community had expressed an interest in the continuation of activities such as bingo night. Other suggestions included a beetle drive or sheep drive.

Next meeting

Sunday, 16 October 2011 at 5 pm in the church to organise bonfire night.