

Friends of Llanspyddid

Minutes for meeting - 30th January 2010

Meeting started at 6:10 pm

Those present: Bradley Welch, Sunita Welch, Pat Jones, Barry Hill, Pauline Hill, Vera Davies, David Davie, David Powell, Gaynor Pugh, Rob Griffiths, Liam Fitzpatrick

Apologies: Eric

Christmas Events

Everyone thought that the Christmas tree was a great success as it was a welcome sight as we entered the village. Some commented that people were slowing down on the main road as they passed it. Everyone particularly enjoyed the tree decorating event with the roast chestnuts and craft activities for the children. It is thought that the donations for the quiz raised enough money to cover the cost of electricity.

Unfortunately all the other Christmas events scheduled eg Christmas Fair, Carol Service and sing around a lamp-post were either cancelled or reduced due to the freezing weather before Christmas. Also a New Year get together seemed to have been missed out at the planning stage.

Traffic calming petition

Liam relayed information regarding our petition to have the speed limit on the A40 through Llanpyddid reduced had been partially successful. Although there would not be a reduction in the speed limit, there would be a slow sign placed at each end of the village and chevrons down the middle of the road on either side of the junction. This would cost £12500. Apparently a peak time survey on the use of the junction had been completed but the numbers didn't seem to reflect what we see at these times. There was also discussion that a survey of that kind didn't reflect how difficult it was for people (mainly children and the elderly) to cross to the bus stop on the other side of the A40. Vera pointed out that when the bus stop shelter was built, the old hedge was cut back and a new one planted further back. The old hedge was not taken out properly and subsequently has re-grown, blocking the view. Liam said that he would check the 'Plan of Works' to see if hedge cutting and sapling clearing is scheduled to be done here soon.

Treasurer's Report

Rob reported that there was £196 in the account.

Previously proposed ideas

Church grounds day

A sack of bulbs donated by the Community Council were planted by Stan, Peter and Geoff during a break in the weather. Barry suggested a competition to guess the number of daffodils in bloom on a particular day. This was decided to be tied in with a working day in the churchyard on 26th March. It would be 50p a go and entries would have to be in on 12th March.

For the working day, the work would be done in the morning, starting 11am, with a bring-your-own ploughman's lunch at 1pm and a seed swap in the afternoon. Brad and Peter would draw up a list of jobs which would be put in a newsletter before the day so that jobs could be shared around.

Playground

Sunita, Liam and Pat are continuing to work on this. Sunita reported that Powys County Council have no money to purchase equipment but they are more than happy to maintain and insure equipment if we raise the money. The way that the land is deeded means that Powys County Council will always have to own the land.

Liam and Pat have tried to ask Glyn Tarrell Community Council for some funds but reported that this group is very much centred on Libanus and they are not very willing to let any money go to Llanspyddid. Not only that, they are

not willing to hold any meetings in Llanspyddid either. The next meeting is on 15th February (and every 3rd Tuesday of the month) and it was suggested that more people should try to attend the meetings to redress the balance. Sunita pointed out that once we got some funding this enabled us to get match funding from other sources.

Meanwhile Brad and David would look at repairing the seats on the blue roundabout. (This was managed around 6th February and the following week the roundabout was removed with the greasy pole left exposed.) It was also suggested that a row of apple trees could be planted at the top of the field.

Coffee Morning/book swap

These will be on the 1st Tuesday of the month. Vera will organise the first one to see what happens and try to get a rota organised. Mrs Pugh will run a low impact fitness training which she does for Age Concern. Possibly this will have a clothes swap in the summer.

Volunteers

Thanks to all the volunteers that gritted the roads and cleared the snow and ice over the winter. We would like to have a list of volunteers to help in homes for those that need an extra pair of hands for something.

Pancake Race - Shrove Tuesday, 8th March, 5pm.

Bingo Night - 19th February, 7pm

Rob will organise this. Donations for prizes would be welcomed.

Street party - 29th April, 2pm start

The marquee has been booked. It will be dropped off the day before and picked up Sunday. It was thought that the tables should be in a line and everyone bring sandwiches etc for the tea. It was suggested that a commemorative mug or coin could be bought for each of the children. Bunting and balloons will be needed for decoration. Perhaps a hat competition for the children. The Glyn Tarrell Community Council will be approached to request a donation towards funding. There will be a meeting on 10th April to organise the party.

Summer BBQ - Provisionally set for 25th June

Oil deliveries

Peter suggested that it would be cost effective to co-ordinate oil deliveries. He has noticed a steady stream of delivery tankers to different houses and thinks that we should be able to get a better deal if several homes put their orders in together. Each house would separately be billed directly from the company. Peter doesn't mind collating orders from houses in the village and contacting companies to find the best deal. Aim for April for the first order.