

Friends of Brixham Library
General Committee Meeting
Tuesday 9th May 2017

MINUTES

Attending: Alasdair Anderson, Eunice Dodd, Julian Fisher, Andrew John, Rosie Corby, Phil Trayhorn, Alison Lodge

- 1 Alasdair welcomed everyone to the meeting and advised apologies have been received from Paddy Jewry and a letter of resignation from Sheila Watt and in her absence thanked for her time on the committee.

- 2 Minutes of the last meeting 28 February 2017
The minutes were accepted with no matters arising.

- 3 Treasurers report – Eunice
No 1 A/c £7,773.96 No 2 A/c £927.49 Cash in hand £84.51

Expenditure included BATS £200 Cat Wetherall event, £114.17 Children's library, £47.40 John Risdon. Income included Greenway £79, Collection at St Marys £72.76, Subs £230 so far, Alasdair advised another £375 was taken at the concert on the door and £72.76 in the end of concert retiring collection.

- 4 HLF grant application - Phil
The last communication from the Lottery was on March 17th the bid as presented has been agreed in principal but is against any other bids in the area. It goes to adjudication in 8 weeks from the above date so we should hear soon. It will be around £6,500 if granted with £4,000 set aside for listing the headstones from 1850 – 1900s. (Since this meeting the Lottery have now confirmed that we have been successful with a full grant)

Phil said if we don't get the grant we could use some of the money we have so far in the pot (£920) to start a pilot project which might strengthen a future bid.

- 5 2017 events and feedback from Cat Wetherall - Alasdair
The evening event was well attended but the Saturday morning one was poorly attended. Alasdair had received a number of comments that little effort had been made to create a Pirate atmosphere in the children's library, the only sign of the event being one poster.

If we do a similar event in the future we need to up our game Alasdair said. Eunice felt the event coinciding with the pirate weekend may have been the problem Unfortunately, despite efforts by the theatre neither of the items appeared in the official Pirate weekend. Various ideas were discussed to try and improve attendance for the future.

- 6 Defibrillator update - Eunice & Alasdair
The defib' fund is £1,250 held at the bank including the mayor's fund and rotary club contributions. Alasdair and Eunice had meetings with a few key people to try and move the defib' project along. Eunice said Cardiac Science make the defib' and the complete package including warranties, batteries and insurance for 8 yrs would cost around £1295 or perhaps less with discount. The future plan is to have defibrillators installed in the following locations: The Guardhouse Café, Berry Head; Old Fish Quay, Brixham Harbour; Fore Street Brixham in the vicinity of Specasavers and in St Mary's Square, Higher Brixham.

- 7 FoBL Newsletter update - Phil & Julian
Very few articles received and certainly not enough to make a newsletter, a damp squib as Phil put it. It was discussed whether the FoBL events programme could be enlarged for articles to be appended. The future programmes which Eleanor previously compiled was discussed and Rosie

said because of the restriction on her hours which is split between Churston and Brixton she would not have the time to get future programmes together. Julian offered to take over the work. Paul from the libraries service printed off the programmes previously and Rosie will check if this is still possible for future programmes.

8 Membership update - Andrew

We have about 127 paid up members, although we have 320 names and addresses on the database. Eunice said membership insurance is only up to 250 so we need to bear that in mind. A renewal reminder has recently been posted on the website and also e-mailed out to members.

9 News from the Library - Rosie

All the vacant posts have now been filled. Although the overall structure has reduced, the timetable is now well covered. Rosie said thank you for the contributions to the children's library.

10 Loyalty card update - Alasdair

Alasdair said we are members of Brixham Chamber of Commerce and both he and Eunice attended and Alasdair did a presentation about the Friends. They seemed pleased to have the Friends onboard. The owners of FlourFlower having recently joined the loyalty scheme will take along details to the local traders meeting to promote it for us.

11 AGM - 11 July 2017

Alasdair said he will not be standing again as Chairman at the AGM nor will he stay on the committee. Eunice said she would only stay for one more year as Treasurer.

12 Any other business

1. The final decision for the tender of the library system is probably a year away Rosie said. Liz Kent sent a response to our tender process document response which Alasdair handed around.

2. Eunice has advised that Torbay Council has £55,040 available from the Community Fund. This is to be used towards the costs of improving the provision facilities at Brixham Library and must be used within 5 years from 2016. The committee were quite stunned at this news and will look into the matter further.

Eunice also said the Community Right to Bid allows community groups and parish councils to nominate buildings or land for listing by the local authority as an asset of community value introduced by the Localism Act 2011 which could include our library. There is a fairly simple application form to download and complete at <http://www.torbay.gov.uk/planning-and-building/land-charges/assets-of-community-value/>

3. Alasdair said he has not yet responded on behalf of the friends regarding the hike in car parking charges. Rosie felt the town centre is being strangled by the charges. The Chamber of Commerce has written complaining and Alasdair said he would write on behalf of the FoBL.

4. Eunice said perhaps once the defib' has been installed we could have a 'bit of do' inviting the people who have contributed to the fund.

5. Rosie said could we purchase a large picture for behind the desk and fresh notice boards for the children's library, although in view of item 2 above perhaps we should hold fire for a while. Phil said Churston has a tv screen in the entrance perhaps we could look at having one at Brixham - to be discussed later.

13 Date of the next meeting

11th July 2017 AGM at 6pm

25th July 2017 2-4pm