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**Loggerheads & District Befrienders**

**Minutes of Committee Meeting – Fire Station**

**10 am 2nd August 2023**

**Attendees:**

Karen Watkins (Chair) Shielah Clisby Jane Newton

Jan Knight John Knight Ann McCullach

Anthony Deere Steve Carter Pat Henshaw

Bob Dickson

1. **Apologies**

Apologies were received from Jayne Conn. Karen welcomed our two new Committee members, Pat and Bob.

1. **Minutes of last meeting**

The minutes of the last meeting were approved.

1. **Matters Arising**

Karen informed the Committee that she, in conjunction with the Treasurer had applied for a grant to cover the cost of the Christmas Party to Staffordshire County Council (C/Cllr Paul Northcott) and had been successful. The £600 has been received.

Brampton Museum visit to be put on the 2024 Calendar.

1. **Constitution**

Jan presented the Committee with the appropriate sections of the constitution to be reviewed in the light of our two new members.

**Action** Jan to send copies of the full constitution to Pat and Bob

Karen to draft a new wording for our aims to include LVCS.

1. **Finance Report**

The annual accounts have been prepared and are ready for submission to the auditor, Hugh Davies who had agreed to audit them.

**Action** John to give Hugh a bottle of wine in appreciation.

John to investigate saving accounts which might offer a better rate of interest than we are currently getting with the Co-op.

1. **Gift Aid**

It was agreed that we would not register for Gift Aid as it was difficult to attribute our donations to individuals as the majority came from collections.

1. **LVCS Update**

John reported that currently we have 14 drivers, had completed 258 journeys covering 7755 miles. An advert had been placed on Loggerheads Next Door which had received over 1000 view but only two responses. One from someone who wanted to set up something similar and Bob has not yet been able to contact the second person.

He also had been trying to talk with someone from Market Drayton Medical practice to encourage them to set up a similar scheme to ours.

1. **Walking Group Update**

Pat reported that currently 63 people are on the mailing list and three types of walk are offered, active, leisure and strollers. Pat offered to come to a Friday coffee morning and chat about the group to see if other Friends may be interested in joining.

1. **August/September Calendar**

4th Exercise

9th Games

11th Silver Diners – Chetwode Arms

18th Exercise

25th Tai Chai Demonstration

1st Sep Exercise

8th Silver Diners- Oak Gate Barn

15th Exercise

22nd Variety Show

29th Bingo

1. **Scarecrow Trail and Market**

The Scarecrow trail and market in Loggerheads will be held on Sunday 27th August between 11am and 3pm. It was agreed that we would have a stall selling crafts, plants but we would not make a scarecrow this year.

**Action**: Karen to book a space for a stall & do rota for volunteers to be on the stall.

1. **Silver Sunday – 1st October**

An initial meeting has been held with Whitmore Active Living Group our partners for this event. It was agreed that we would have a simple menu of sandwiches, sausage rolls and cake. Tea will be served on arrival and with the cakes. Ticket Price £5.00. Entertainment Neil Mason, a word game on the table and an exercise demonstration. Befrienders will prepare the sandwiches, sausage rolls and do the table decorations. WLG will source the majority of raffle prizes from local businesses.

A further meeting is scheduled in September to agree table seating plans.

1. **Silver Diners**

There was a general discussion on the numbers attending Silver Diners and the difficulties faced in finding suitable venues for 40 people. It was agreed to monitor the situation but to introduce a set price (supplemented by Befrienders funds as appropriate) and to collect the monies the week before to help avoid stress on the day.

1. **Date of Next Meeting**

6th September 2023 - 10am at the Fire Station.

1. **AOB**

The Insurance has been renewed at a small increase of £1.12p

Jan reminded everyone of the invitation to Joules Place, the new McCarthy & Stone Retirement Home in Market Drayton.

**Action:** Karen to canvas the friends to see who would be interested in attending**.**

Ann informed the Committee that the Befrienders would be celebrating its 15th anniversary in August. Karen thanked Ann, Jane and Bob who had been involved from the beginning.

**Action** Karen to mention this in her comments at a coffee morning.

Christmas Party – It was agreed to hold the event on Friday 22nd December as we could have Ashley Memorial Hall from 10am as no badminton that day.

**Action:** Karen to book hall.