

Minutes of the meeting of the Colerne CLTBoard, held via Zoom, 15.4.21

Present:- Paddy Harmon(PH), Peter Mellett(PM), Jane Mellett(JM), Ally Minch(AM).
Apologies :- Anne Nicholas(AN), David Squire(DS).

1. Whilst waiting, discussed future Meetings - possibility of meeting at the Lib Club from June and then being able to invite other interested parties to join the group to learn more about us. However, some concern about safety as indoors until everyone has had their vaccinations. Could also meet outside at Jane's where we could also have zoom on wifi. Generally - need to find ways to invite others from the membership to join us. JM to do another article for the Parish Mag. inviting members to join the zoom meetings at least.

2. Minutes of last meeting - Accepted.

3. Matters arising. - Policies:- i) AN has sent a sample "Safeguarding Policy" AM felt this was adequate for adapting for our purposes.

ii) NB Ask AN if she can set up a page on the website for the Minutes to be lodged. In the longer term we probably need someone new to focus on developing the website further and keeping it up to date to increase its effectiveness.(mention in our Parish Mag article)

iii) JM negotiated a reduction in NCLT membership for a further year. Agreed £75, (now paid) This includes some of the training webinars - e.g Working with Housing Associations.21.4.21, and AN doing one on the 28th re public relations.

iv) The application for the Co-operative Bank now being processed. (since this meeting, the Parish Council have agreed to act as our interim bankers.)

v) Jane has noticed that our current membership flyer currently states that membership is a "Maximum of £1". This was because of having equal basic membership. Now need to appeal for further donations, but until we have our own bank account this may be tricky. (JM to check with PC clerk if they could cope with bacs payments for us.)

vi) Community Asset Register. PH has tried to contact the Planning Department - currently it is really hard to talk to a real person. He has downloaded the proforma for Registering Community Assets. Local owners receive the rent for Bright's Village Shop and the Premiere Stores. We need to check details with the store managers. The owners need to be consulted as they have a right to object. Cllr Brian Matthew might be able to help find the right contact in Planning.

vii) Possible partnering with the Thickwood project. Currently nothing back from the land owner re the process for landownership.

4. Progress re formal procedures re bank and Trustees

i. Bank as above, item 3iv)

ii) The full incorporation and rules documents have been circulated. Their main use will emerge as we move to a General Meeting and any potential projects.

5. Feedback from NCLT webinars.

i. JM fed back from NCLT webinar re the new Community Housing Fund(£4m) Though a small amount of what is needed, it is a foot in the door with the current government, and NCLT have had influence in the selection of co-ordinator for this fund, quite separate from Homes for England funding systems.

Currently and for the next few years start up money will probably need to be raised through community shares and matching investment from green investment banks.

ii) CHEESE project - very professional project providing community based heat loss evaluation for people's homes. Currently setting up a franchise to ensure continued quality. Will be doing a joint project in the autumn with Bath Community Energy that we might be able to piggy

back on. A recording of the training will be placed on the "Next Generation Training" website in Centre for Sustainable Energy. A very exciting potential to impact on our community by assisting people to assess how they can retrofit their homes, in the interests of Climate Change mitigation. This would be open to all homes, regardless of wealth because this represents a community response to energy reduction. CHEESE are interested in us as eg. of a mixed rural community and we adjoin Bath.

We would need to raise some funds to pay our way in this. AM felt that this kind of activity would attract the interest of younger members and those concerned about environmental issues.

JM to write up her notes re both these trainings for putting on the website.

6. Policies for the organisation.

Can accept the safeguarding policy. For the remainder, we have model policies from the NCLT within their Handbook.

JM to ask DS to suggest which financial policies we should have

AM and PM made connection with the link for the model policies. These to be followed up and extracted for next meeting for discussion. (since the meeting this found and there are some very good e,g,s of best practice and model policies.)

7. Way forward -

PH emphasised the importance of looking out for a potential project through which everything comes together.

Next meeting - 10th June 2021 - 7.30pm by zoom and in person at Jane's ; can be publicised in the Parish Mag.