

Buxted Bonfire Society Meeting Wednesday 19th June 2019 @ 19:30hrs Buxted Football Club Pavilion

Present:

Mick, Hayley, Alex, Debbie, Angela, Kev, Jack, Emily, Will

Apologies:

Mark, Sue, Jim, Jan, Clive, Guy, Monica, Thelma, Bob, Sabrina, Dave

Fete:

KBS Inflatables received an unwarranted and vindictive complaint regarding the safety of the inflatable – there was no risk at any time to any person attending the Fete and KBS provided an excellent service and welcome support, all present agreed that we should engage in their services again (Proposed Kev, Seconded Jack).

Mick confirmed that thank you letters had been composed and would be going out to all donors by the end of July.

All present agreed that the W.I had done an amazing job with the cake stall and by way of a thank you Mick has offered to organise and run a quiz evening for them if they wish. Hayley also handed round a thank you card to be sent to them.

The football club venue was unanimously agreed to be the best place for our annual fete and next year we should consider operating two arenas (running the Dog show simultaneously with other events).

Apologies' were made to Alex for the accidental disposal of one of his Gazebo covers – Mick's new Gazebo was damaged beyond repair and he gave the covers to Alex.

The Pentacle drummers were fantastic and they stayed for most of the afternoon, they have indicated that next year there will probably be a charge to cover expenses, however all present agreed that this would be worth the small cost.

The Booze barrow went O.K after the ticket price reduction, however all present agreed that next year it should be a Booze tombola instead.

The Face painting was popular, but next year it should be sited next to the Photo Booth and this would potentially encourage visitors to purchase photos of their new look!

Several members raised the issue of signage, whilst the location of the Fete is the best option it is important that visitors know where it is, all present agrees that next year greater attention will be paid to this area and potentially some reusable 'Fete this way' professional signs would be purchased.

Whilst the setup and removal were very efficient this year, we all agreed that we can further improve this by allocating teams to setup their own stalls rather than everyone doing bits here and there.

It was agreed that there should be just one point of contact for stall holders' bookings as it became a little complicated this year.

The Podgy Pieman stall was too far away from the rest of the food and was quite expensive – other food vendors should be approached for next year (mindful that we don't want to lose revenue on the BBQ that was a huge success this year).

The Bar was a success, and brought in much needed funds for the football club, however those present felt that the football club should consider additional help from their members to ease the pressure on BBS members for next year.

The Auction was a little complicated and it was felt that we didn't maximise on the potential of the great items that were on offer – a more efficient solution to be discussed for next year that capitalises on the value of the items on offer.

It was felt that we could have reduced the length of the fete by an hour (either by starting later or finishing earlier).

More children's attractions should be provided next year and better (early) engagement with local schools and groups was needed in order to draw families to the event.

Terrier or Duck racing was suggested as an option for next year's Fete as well as pony or donkey rides.

The P.A system for next year needs to be installed earlier and have a wider range, Alex explained that this wouldn't be an issue and that with a streamlined approach to setting up the stalls next year he would be in a better position to concentrate on the audio provision.

The pricing for future raffles was agreed at £1.50 a ticket or five for £5.

It was suggested that one way of increasing attendance at the Dog show would be for local vets to have posters and banners displayed at their practices well in advance.

Other business:

Mick apologised over the change of the day of the meeting and promised all present that future meetings would always be held on the second Monday of the month at the football club.

Mick also apologised for the confusion over the Banner logo and explained the reasons behind the livery on the website and publications - all present agreed that the banner logo and the polo / hoodie design complemented each other and that both could continue to be used together to promote BBS.

Mick suggested that we should look at the possibility of having a small shipping container sited at the football club for storing fete items and any 'non-perishable' items owned by BBS, all present agreed that this should be explored.

Banner, an aluminium composite banner will cost approx. £100, samples will be requested for discussion at the next meeting.