

Buxted Bonfire Society Monthly Meeting Minutes



Date: Monday 11th December 2017

Location: Buxted Football Club

Attendees: Debbie Elliott (DE) (Chair), Sue Ovens (SO) (Sec), Hayley Elliott (HE), Mandy Dasilva (MD), Kevin Clarke (KC), Angela Clarke (AC), Jim Ovens (JO), Sabrina Mudie (SM)

Agenda:

1. Introductions
(Chair –Debbie)
2. Apologies (Alex, Jan and Clive, Jack, Monica, Natalie and Aaron, Mick, VP's)
3. Confirm minutes of last meeting. Copy available at meeting.
4. History of the Society for new members.
5. Our Vision and any updates – 2018 final awards
6. Memberships and new member sign ups
7. BONCO meeting notes
8. Light switch on debrief
9. Kids Party debrief
10. BBS Xmas night out (confirm numbers and time)
11. How is everyone doing?
12. Summary /Conclusions/Closing Questions
13. Next Meeting date
14. AOB

Agenda Item Number	Description
1.	Attendees introduced themselves around the table.
2.	See agenda
3.	Minutes of the last meeting correct AC and KC seconded.
4.	No visitors/new members attending
5.	DE and MG to meet to discuss a future BBS parade in Buxted in 2019. SM asked why we want to host and it was explained that all societies with the exception of Phoenix host, for the benefit of local charities and to uphold the bonfire tradition. DE we need to look to the bigger societies to assist with marshalling, torches etc. The meeting unanimously agreed that to host in 2018 would be too much pressure to raise the £6-8,000 required.
6.	We all have possible new members, try to recruit in the New Year.
7.	DE reported back – dates announced for 2018:- 1/9 Uckfield, 8/9 Crowborough, 6/10 Eastbourne, 20/10 Seaford, 20/10 Neville, 5/11 Lewes, 5/11 Worthing

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	Bonfire groups have raised £60,000 collectively for charity. Next meeting of BONCO is Feb/March
8.	<p>Tree Lighting</p> <p>KC – we need to do more ourselves next year to make more funds for the society. DE perhaps run our own bar-b-q. But too complicated to try to run our own bar and have our own license. DE and MG to discuss next year's event, particularly to discuss with the pubs to run a bar and give us a share of the profits.</p> <p>If the event is not charging an entry fee then we do not need a food safety certificate.</p> <p>The event was well received locally and well supported for a first year. Profit £70</p> <p>GE has 'promised' a 25' tree next year!</p> <p>We need to harness member's skills better, ask what they can contribute.</p> <p>Next tree event we need a board to advertise the society and the tree donation.</p> <p>More 'floating' helpers are needed to help with any issues arising.</p>
9.	<p>All felt that the party activities were very well planned, a big thank you to Hayley and her assistants. Suggestions for next year</p> <p>Santa to visit nearer the end so that children are not consuming sweets before the tea.</p> <p>Bags to take away the crafts, perhaps decorated by the children themselves.</p> <p>No morning session.</p> <p>SM asked if the party and tree lighting event could be on the same day? Giving it some thought. Also wondered if some activities should be charged for?</p> <p>We do not need a DBS check if there are numerous helpers.</p> <p>Good local feedback.</p> <p>The coffee/tea collection tin raised £29.86</p>
10.	Xmas party at the Cinque Ports to start from 7.45, meet outside and WhatsApp we are there. £3 to sign in. Swagger Band playing, same as at the fete.
11.	DE how are we all doing, is everyone OK? Yes all happy. DE – we need members and prospective members to feel valued, not to be intimidated by the time they need to give to the organisation so that people are not put off joining.
12.	No closing questions
13.	Next meeting date Monday 8/1/2018 at the Football Club.
14.	<p>AOB –</p> <p>We are closing the year with £1,914.78 in the account, with 3 signatories.</p> <p>MG would like to propose a member of the year, Alex. Agreed.</p> <p>SM suggested a 100 club-we would need a gambling license but the suggestion was received well and needs investigation</p> <p>A new email will be set up when SO is back in February so that she can field some enquiries.</p> <p>There are still 3 vacant roles</p> <p>Vice Chair</p> <p>Treasurer</p> <p>Torch Captain</p> <p>These roles need to be filled, not necessarily by parading members.</p>

Other Agenda Items/Action Points

- **DE/MG** Contact the Scouts regarding future collaboration and a possible date for the 2019 Buxted event.
- **DE/MG** talk to 2 Buxted pubs re collaboration in events and meet regarding 2019 parade.
- **DE / MG** talk to Bonco about lower age limit for torch bearers
- Investigate the possibility of a gambling license for 100 club?