

Minutes - Friends of West Barnes Library Committee Meeting

Tuesday 8th October 2019 at 7.15pm

1. Present

- Toby Ewin (Chair)
- Rachel Taylor (Vice-Chair)
- Penny Price (Treasurer)
- Karren Whyte (Library Manager)
- Alison Honor (Committee Member)
- Brenda Brevitt (Committee Member)
- Madeleine Maguire (Committee Member)
- Mary-Jane Jeanes (Committee Member)
- Sarah McAlister (Committee Member)
- Theresa Clarke (Committee Member)

2. Apologies

- Anthony Hopkins (Head of Library & Heritage Services)
- Dan Griffiths (Secretary)
- Carl Quilliam (West Barnes Ward Councillor)
- Eloise Bailey (West Barnes Ward Councillor)
- Hina Bokhari (West Barnes Ward Councillor)

3. Library Manager's Report

KW reported that visitor numbers for August were down 6% although this may be because no regular activities take place in August. Issues & renewals are up by 12%. Online visits are now included in issues numbers.

Additional Arts Council funding received across Merton libraries for Special Needs for children's area – sensory equip, soft play equipment, lighting. West Barnes- circus themed. Spanish classes now taking place on Mondays and a successful Macmillan coffee morning was held recently in the library. This month's history talk will be a joint venture with U3A. TE to discuss possibility of further joint events with U3A.

KW hopes that with new volunteers it may be possible to run more craft sessions and a homework club during the summer, so please email KW if you can help.

Lastly, a new printing system is now in place

4. Head of Libraries & Heritage Services Report

AH was unable to attend but provided a short update on the redevelopment plans. Merton has commissioned new surveys to inform the library development work with the view to going to market in early 2020 to bring a developer in.

5. Treasurer's Report

PP reported that the Friends have approximately £1,893 in the bank. An updated Income & Expenditure report is included at the end of this document.

6. Update on Events

TE advised that the councillors are planning on a festive event in Motspur Park on 7th December. There will be stalls in Earl Beatty and the undertaker's car parks; they are hoping to source a Xmas tree plus activities in the library. TE has spoken with the Knit & Natter Group.

Meeting discussed whether the library could run a Santa's Grotto but lack of suitable Santa has ruled this out. Other suggestions included:

- FOWBL could run children's' activities in the library
- Possibility of a local children's choir(s) to be investigated
- Library hosting a fancy dress
- BB to ask at the stables about the possibility of borrowing a donkey
- RT advises Holy Cross will be able to lend a knitted nativity scene for the day
- Biscuit decorating

Toby & Rachel will be attending the Local Business Forum meeting on Thursday 10th Oct .

Possible Future events suggestions include:

- Afternoon tea dance
- Games night
- Beetle drive
- Spring/Easter fair

7. Any Other Business

Friends to ask of possibility of installing a picture rail which could then be used for painting/photo competitions, art exhibitions etc. TE to discuss further with KW.

8. Next Meeting

The next meeting date was not agreed.

Income & Expenditure Report

Friends of West Barnes Library

7th October 2019

	Income	Expenses	Net Income
	£	£	£
Membership Subscriptions	5.00	0.00	5.00
3 Folding Tables	0.00	107.85	-107.85
18 bottles of wine to be held for future events			
Average price £4.41 per bottle	0.00	79.37	-79.37
Domain renewal 18/06/19-17/06/21	0.00	14.38	-14.38
Author Event 14/05/19	38.00	29.25	8.75
Event 03/05/19 Marsden Charityevent?	0.00	21.45	-21.45
Author Event (A Murder Most Indian)	24.00	35.00	-11.00
Quiz 15/06/19	125.00	107.86	17.14
Bingo	94.00	78.53	15.47
Author Event 01/10/19		11.90	-11.90
	286.00	485.59	-199.59
Cash at Bank @ 07.10.19			1707.31
Cash in hand @ 07.10.19			185.63
			1,892.94
Cash reserves b/fwd at 01.04.19			2092.53
Net expenditure 2019/20			-199.59
Cash reserves @ 31.07.19			1892.94