

MINUTES OF UPPER USK VALLEY MEETING HELD ON MAY 23rd AT THE SHOEMAKERS ARMS , PENTREBACH

Present: Barry Alderslade (BA), Nikki Alderslade (NA), Julia Blazer (JB) Treasurer, David Blazer (DB), Alan Denny (AD), Roos Geraerds (RG), Dave Howells (DH) Chair, Malcolm Liddell (ML), Angharad Loveluck (AL), Hugh Macmillan (HM), Sharon Millar (ShM), Siân Miller (SM) Secretary, Christopher Spry (CS) Vice Chair, Sandra Thomas (ST), Linda Wickham (LW) Minutes, Kathy Williams (KW), Les Williams (LeW).

Guest: Peter Willis (PW) , Rural Futures.

Welcome: DH remarked on the beautiful location & weather, the meeting being held in the pub garden.

Apologies for Absence: Received from Roy Adams, Annette Scale.

Minutes of Previous Meeting: Approved.

Rural Futures: PW introduced the RF programme being launched across Wales in 10 areas with similar issues to the UUV. PW will work in the Sennybridge area for 2 days a week for the next 18 months. The aim is to bring people together to discern what is good and bad in their area and to link up with agencies that work in the area. Projects should benefit the wider community, including the most vulnerable and disadvantaged. SM stated that there was a need to start community engagement as soon as possible as we only had PW for 18 months. DH has started this for Trecastle Village Hall. JB suggested October as an engagement event as the Summer is difficult and September is the Sennybridge Show. RG suggested Senybridge Show and others supported this. The Trecastle Show would be suitable especially for contacting the farming community. Transport is one of the main items that will be relevant. SM stated that we needed to focus on what is really needed and not be diverted. AL mentioned that there was no longer 'open access' to the field at Sennybridge School for local youngsters. DH asked about mobile exhibition for the shows. SM pointed out that there is a limited budget. PW suggested that representatives from the local community be involved. Suggestion to approach the three Community Councils, W.I.s, in Trecastle Ladies Guild, YFCs, church groups and Football Club.

Reprinted Pamphlets : Have been well-received and donations given from various businesses. We also now have plastic containers to put them in.

Dementia Friends Training: Hosted by RG Thursday 31st at The IWRC at 5.30 pm.

Trustees and Training: An email will be sent to those involved by SM, detailing what is involved.

Sennybridge Toilets: There is a good chance of a further grant. JB has downloaded form and we will apply for it. The plans have been sent off and we are awaiting confirmation.

Membership Matters: None

A.O.B.

- a) ML will follow up with Richard Poole, Welsh Water re. Usk Reservoir. The Picnic area has been cleaned up.
- b) JB asked if anybody else was interested in grant applications. ML volunteered.
- c) LeW thanked people for covering toilet locking. Need to check there are sufficient loo rolls.
- d) Saturday 1st September Sennybridge Show to be put in diaries.
- e) July 11th AGM at Castle Coaching Inn, Trecastle.
- f) Ultra Marathon Group from Cardiff would like to use area for a run possibly October.

Date of Next Meetings: Tuesday 19th June at Tanners Arms, Defynnog at 6.30 pm.
Wednesday 8th August at The Rarebit Centre at 6.30 pm.