

Bright Exchange

Minutes of Core Group Meeting on 7 October 2018

Present: Deborah Knowles (Membership Secretary), Maggie Chamberlain (Administrator), Suzi Conway (Treasurer) from 12.30,

Pat White, Fiona Mainstone

Venue: Deborah's

AGM minutes and matters arising

Two amendments made to proposal 2 and about the web hosting. Minutes have been amended. All agreed it was a useful discussion about the future of the Bright Exchange and the Goldstone Club was a good venue. Could have had a better attendance though.

1. REPORTS

- **Membership Report – Deborah Knowles/Membership Secretary**

Thursday 25 October will be a new member meeting, Toddy, Amy and Kelly will be coming.

Discussed about having regular joining events with flexible dates. This could also be half an hour added on before or after the Core group meeting.

- **Administrator - Maggie Chamberlain**

Maggie commented that the new member enquiry and joining process needs to be improved, being too slow and enquiries not always responded to promptly. Suggested if a prospective member is not able to get to a joining evening, provided they have some understanding of what a LETS group is and something to offer this can be done with a phone call.

We did discuss before about asking for I.D proof but all agreed we will not do this. We run on trust and individual members are responsible for checking out those they exchange with. Members can give feedback on each other which can be viewed prior to exchange.

Clarified about the web hosting. Website domain name to be checked when it expires as there is a cost involved to renew.

Action – Suzi/Deb

Suggested rotation of meeting Chair and minutes.

- **Treasurer Suzi**

No finance report

Social Media and promotion

Some discussion about the website and starting of a Facebook page. Facebook page will be a closed group and could include a general link with one to the Bright Exchange website join page.

Action – Suzi (and Liz?)

The Future of the Bright Exchange (continuing discussion from AGM)

Discussed our experiences of other websites which are offering skills share, the differences or similarities and what is good about those sites. It was commented that even when starting on the basis of goodwill they may not manage to stick with this when it grows and that it can quickly evolve into a bartering system whatever they start with. The difficulties of keeping to a mission statement. The benefits of having a points or brights system as opposed to just working on goodwill. But then you do not have situation of people getting into debt. What works on a larger scale or with a small, demographic community that we are. One benefit is we get to know the other members and if we want to we can share with people we have got to know.

It was thought if we want to change the brights system this would need a membership vote.

Action - Fiona will research and scope for cost and complexity.

Plan to move forward, increase the membership numbers and continue to discuss website improvements.

Action - Lucy to be contacted to find out if she has done any research.

Job Roles

Membership Secretary Deborah wants to stand down but no one yet volunteering to take over. A New Member enquiries role would be helpful to answer email enquires and make first contact.

Social Organiser is needed (new role) – regular socials with a discussion theme, events can be put on the new Facebook page when it is opened. Could meet at café or pub and would be a good way for community to connect. These could be held monthly and new members will be invited.

Action – Pat to host the first monthly social and arrange venue

Next Core Group Meeting will be on Sunday 11 November, 11.00 AM at Deborah's.