

# **Minutes of AGM : Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> Jan 2020**

**Apologies:** Dave Tarleton-Hodgson, Kay Kelly,

**Present:** Alison Tarleton-Hodgson, Berni Wood, Rachel Savage, Naomi Byard, David Wood, George Ratcliffe, Tim Wilding, Andrea Wilding, Alison Booth, Anthony Barker, Jane Ratcliffe, Karl Peacock, Kath Peacock, Ronan Walsh, Nicky Lloyd, Rachel Campbell, Amanda Peirson,

- **Previous AGM minutes agreed and signed**

**Thank you for coming and Happy New Year!**

## **Chairs Report:**

Thank you to everyone for all the continued support and hard work this year.

It's been a good year in terms of new ideas, new energy and a wonderful Feast. We said goodbye to Debs, Chris, Helen and Amanda, thank you to them for all the hard work they brought to the Feast committee. However, we also welcomed some new members this year and we will be again shaking up the roles and hopefully bringing on some new ideas.

### **1. Christmas Tree lighting**

The year started on December 2<sup>nd</sup> with a new Christmas event and one which we hope will be also a new tradition for us. The tree lighting ceremony. Thank you to those who sourced and erected the tree and organised this event which was very successful despite wet weather and some musical issues and one which we will repeat.

### **2. Christmas Movie**

Another new Christmas-themed event was our Christmas movie. Following on from the success of Mama Mia we decided to organise another film afternoon. 'It's a Wonderful Life', as chosen and shown on December 23<sup>rd</sup>. Sherry and mince pies were served and although we were a select group everyone enjoyed the event. Another to repeat and perhaps make a new tradition for the village.

### **3. Murder Mystery Dinner**

Instead of the Panto, the Kirkby Fleetham Players held a Murder Mystery Dinner event which proved to be hugely successful and they made a generous donation to the Feast.

### **4. New bar trailer**

We made a significant purchase this year in the form of the new bar trailer. This looks amazing and I understand has transformed the work of Ally and Dave making it less arduous in the set-up. Many thanks to Dave for researching, negotiating and acquiring this and to both him and George for picking it up.

### **5. Feast Week - August**

- a) Football was again successful. Ryan Moule organised the event and there was a good crowd of young people to both play and cheer. The girls were reluctant to play this

year so it might be worth considering a separate girls match if there is enough interest and time.

- b) Indoor bowls was held this year as a taster session and it was well attended, especially by the teenagers in the village. Many thanks to Ronnie and the bowls team along with Steve Peirson for organising and coaching. Having it straight after football helped here. The feeling from those taking part was that there should be some sort of competition with a trophy so we may need to consider this if the event runs again next year.
- c) The Quoits also went well and was a fun afternoon. Thank you to Rory and Nick for organising this. The competitions were very exciting. The times worked well even though we had, at one point, to retreat to the pub due to thunder and lightning.
- d) The Family Fun Run was, again, a great event. Thank you to Kay for taking charge of this, this year and to her team for a great job. We need to be aware of health and safety on the road as there were quite a few cars coming through again this year but it was managed well. There doesn't seem to be any solution, just vigilance and making sure children are supervised.
- e) The Quiz night was fabulous again with another great turnout. The food worked perfectly and everyone had plenty to eat. The quiz itself was brilliant and everyone had fun - this event seems to just grow and grow. Thank you again to Dave and George and Ally and the bar team as well as all those who provided and served the food.
- f) The biggest issue we faced this year was the loss of the village shop for entries and other communications, collections and dropping things off. However the hub helped us to manage this to an extent and a great big thank you goes to Anthony who opened his home as our new ticket booth, collection point and information bureau for all things Feast-related. Thank you to Kay and Kate also for helping with this.

## 6. Feast Day

The weather was certainly quite challenging this year but we managed to dodge most of the showers and eventually things settled down and the day went ahead well. It was a pity that the young dancers were unable to perform but it was just too wet and slippery. There was a good crowd and I think the stall holders did well. Entries didn't seem to be too much affected by our new arrangements at Anthony's although some classes were down. We should monitor this going forward and see if our class names affect this or if some classes are just not working as well.

A very special thank you to Cathy and Naomi Bayard who managed all the entries everything went very smoothly. Also to Rachel and Kay who, quite late in the day, stepped in to take over the Show Secretary role and did a great job. Not forgetting David who sorted out the spreadsheets for the entries which should now be more straightforward to use.

Everything went off smoothly during the judging this year. Displaying the timetable and map helped people to work out what was where and when things were happening and this worked well.

Thank you to all the stewards for managing everything during the morning

The lunches for judges were kindly organised again by the pub. These are much appreciated.

The set-up this year was a work of precision and everything seemed to go very smoothly- many thanks to Tim and Andrea and their dedicated team. There was a good variety of stalls and things to see and do and the main marquee was very popular as ever. The booking of the Drakes of Hazard was a master stroke! This was absolutely amazing and it would be good to have more such events in the arena. Thank you to Ronan and Debs for this and all the other stalls and events - thy just seems to get better year on year.

The school were very excited to open the Feast this year and prepared a song and dance especially for the occasion. They also had a stall. Hopefully this will be repeated. It is lovely to have them involved in Feast events.

The Dog Show again attracted large numbers of entries and the prizes now donated all help maintain the interest. A great job done by Steve and Helen for keeping this going smoothly the earlier start also helped things to run more smoothly.

Another huge thank you must go to Phil Gardiner for his tireless work as MC. It is very much appreciated and he does such a marvellous job. A big thank you also to Darren too who does so much for us during Feast week and at other events throughout the year. We rely so much on him and he always comes through.

The tombola was a great success again. The new method of ticketing seems to be working well thank you Rachel and the team.

The village hall again packed people in for teas and Helen and her team were non-stop the bar was a great draw as usual - many thanks to Helen and Dave and Ally and everyone who helped with the teas and the bar.

The evening was also a success. This seems to be better attended than in the past. The band came up trumps and business at the bar was brisk. Being able to lock the main doors in the village hall was certainly a plus. I realise that some issues outside the marquee gave cause for concern and this is something that needs to be discussed for next year.

The raffle again sold record numbers of tickets. Thank you Anthony, Kate and helpers.

Tarmac provided sponsorship for the marquee so we were able to cover all these costs. From my discussions with them, now that they are working in Kirkby Fleetham there should be a closer partnership.

We also had significant donations from Patrons. We are really grateful for the Patrons who give great support to the Feast year after year. The class sponsorship also helps and thanks to Alison for organising this.

The schedule was fabulous again and everything going on to the website early means we are not rushing this anymore - thank you Jane. Sponsorship and advertising in the schedule is vital for covering the costs of the printing so thank you Rachel for a great job done.

Karl and George did sterling work as always on prize money and keeping us all topped up with cash for floats. This is a vital role and on Feast day and the main focus for many people with entries. The most constant question asked is 'When can we get our money!'

Getting the tents down on the Saturday, although a bit of a chore is well worth it and I think we have a good rhythm going with this now. Quite a few people stepped up to help out. The clear-up on Sunday went well too and was done quickly after a few early hiccups caused by me - we'll have a better system for the keys next year.

A big thanks again to Margaret who works tirelessly running the website and making sure announcements get to the newspapers on time and things are shared on social media.

A special thanks to Alison for organising the two garden classes outside of Feast Day and also to Nick and Joanne for the two 'on the day' classes in the farmer's section these are much appreciated.

A final thanks to our President, Fran, who is our 'mother of the Feast' and always has her finger on the pulse and a great deal of past knowledge to guide us through.

As we look towards 2020 our 219<sup>th</sup> Kirkby Fleetham Feast, I think we can be very proud of all our achievements so far in keeping this tradition going. Thanks you to everyone on the committee for your continued enthusiasm and energy in putting on all our events I believe that we really do work as a team and everyone has a vital role to play and plays it well.

## **7. Apple Day**

Apple Day was held on October 13<sup>th</sup> and despite the weather it was quite well-attended. Thank you to Karl and Kathleen for organising this and to all who helped to organise and run it especially Nicky for apple-themed games. I understand the raffle did very well - thank you Anthony.

## **8. Tree Lighting Ceremony**

Although sadly, I was unable to attend this this year, I understand it went very well with the highlight being the singing of the children from Kirkby Fleetham School. It seems to have become a Kirkby Fleetham tradition and long may it last. Thanks again to George, Tim, Ronan and all who helped to arrange for the tree, the lights and the putting up and to those who made it a lovely village event on the night.

## **9. Christmas Film Night - 'Muppet Christmas Carol'**

Our second Christmas film night saw a slightly bigger crowd and was again a lovely way to spend a couple of hours. The film was a great choice and thoroughly enjoyed, especially by my grandson Ori who giggled through most of it. Thank you Jane and George for organising the film and to all who helped and attended.

We had two events planned for 2019 which didn't, in the end go ahead but would be good things to push for in 2020.

## **The Treasure Hunt.**

I know Chris Noble did a lot of ground work for this and it could be a very enjoyable event if we timed it well.

### **Wine Tasting Evening**

Alison also did a lot of ground work for this and so it could go ahead later this year if we can find a mutually suitable date.

Also;

### **Bonfire Night**

This is a hugely popular event and one of the highlights in the village calendar but it is also expensive to put on and takes a lot of work so having not done it in 2019 we should perhaps look again at how and if we continue to offer it.

## **Thoughts for 2020**

At present the Feast looks healthy both in terms of finance, sponsorship and the dedicated team we have on the committee. However, we mustn't be complacent. We have lost some valuable team members this year and need to keep a good number to cover all the roles and jobs that need doing for the Feast and also other events we run. Neither must we be financially blinkered as we are spending significant money on the Feast, which is a good thing, but we also need to address our fund-raising which we have done less of over the past couple of years.

Nevertheless, nothing would happen at all without the commitment and hard work of the committee and for this I am truly grateful. I believe that we have a great team and the support of, and dedication to our work ensures that the Feast continues to be delivered each year which is our central aim. Everybody plays their part and this makes our Feast work more enjoyable and rewarding. I feel very privileged to have led this great team over the past few years and I know that it will continue to thrive and flourish in the years ahead.

### **Treasurers Report 2018/2019:**

The opening balance of the Community Account was £10839.25 however this included monies already spent on the 2018 fireworks and the Christmas tree lights and storage box.

This report covers a 14 month period from 1<sup>st</sup> November 2018 to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019.

This year our overall expenditure over income was £7573.96

Our biggest outlay during this period was the purchase of our mobile bar. We had agreed on a budget of £8000.00 for this purchase but thanks to Dave and Ally Tarleton-Hodgson the total for the purchase, preparation and security fittings was actually £7117.29 - almost £1000.00 under budget.

As consequence of this purchase our annual insurance premium was raised by £309.83 and as a result, this year the bar prices were reviewed and marginally increased. This, it transpired, was a good move as the weather for our Feast day was autumnal but the bar still managed to make a profit of £1372.29

The Feast week itself, in financial terms, was a success and in fact made an overall profit of £2064.42 Whilst this was down almost £700 on the previous year we did however invest more in the arena display (Drakes of Hazard £700.00), activities for the children outside the arena (Live for Today £900.00) and more money spent on the Saturday night band (£500.00).

During these 14 months we undertook the following events:

- Bonfire Night 2018 ran at an overall loss of £719.38 This is approximately £160 less loss than the previous year and £240 less of a loss than 2016
- In November 2018, on the closing of the Village Post Office, we held an informal farewell gathering at the Black Horse to say our thanks to Dorothy and Carol for all their hard work and support they had given to the Feast and its committee over the years
- In December 2018, on behalf of the village, we purchased a Christmas Tree and lights, held a lighting and carol singing event as well as a Christmas film afternoon. These events were repeated in 2019 with the addition of the excellent singing from the children from the village school

Whilst we didn't hold any fund raisers during 2019 we did receive generous donations from:

- £719.03 from Helen Mason following the Fleetham Players murder mystery production of "Killing Thyme"
- £246.85 from Karl and Kath Peacock following their "Apple Day"

The Feast Insurance continues to be one of our largest, but necessary, annual expenditures and currently costs £1,419.68

The closing balance in our Community Account at the end of December 2019 stood at £5,236.46 and we have £59 cash in hand.

We have continued to transfer £25 per month from the Community Account into our Business Account and the closing balance in this account at the end of December was £15,962.07

Through some very hard work by the Feast Committee and its supporters combined with the generosity of the Feast Patrons and TARMAC I think it is fair to say our past year has been a success.

I think it would be fair to say the Feast remains in a good state of health financially and continues to provide events for the community of Fleetham and surrounding areas.

George Ratcliffe  
Feast Treasurer

**Show Secretaries Report:** Kay absent. Entries approx. 600. A few late entries. Art and crafts down, flower arranging down, children slightly up. Need to keep some of the categories simple to try and encourage more entries.

#### **Nomination and Confirmation of Officers 2020:**

Office	Nominated	Proposed	Seconded	
Chair	Dave	George	Karl	Agreed
Vice Chair	Kay	Alison	Tim	Agreed
President	Fran	Ally	Jane	Agreed

Vice President	Alison	Jane	George	Agreed
Secretary	Jane & Ally	Berni	Alison	Agreed
Treasurer	George	Ally	Tim	Agreed
Vice Treasurer	Karl	Jane	Berni	Agreed
Show Secretary	Rachel	Alison	Tim	Agreed

**AOB :**

- Berni has announced that she is standing down as Chair, but will be happy to continue on the Committee, and will help out in whatever way she can. Ally asked if she would be happy to continue to liaise with Tarmac, as she has contact with them. Berni agreed to do this. Many thanks to Berni for all her hard work over the last few years.
- Amanda is also stepping down, but has said that she and Steve will help out whenever they can, this is much appreciated.
- Laura and Rob Waddington keen to join. Amy Fearnley may also join. Some people are unable to attend on a Tuesday night, so it was suggested that maybe we could change to a different night, eg; Thursday. This is something to look into and can be discussed further at next meeting to make a decision. We could alternate nights? Suzie Christie has also mentioned an interest

**Next AGM : January 2021 (Date to be confirmed)**