

Bishop's Waltham Minibus Group Annual General Meeting
Monday 14th November 2022

Robert Shields, acting chairman opened the meeting at 6.00pm

Apologies were received from Julie Cottam, Colvin Leslie, Sylvia Bondsfield, Emma Houghton and David Mclean, the Chairman.

Attendees were John Sealey, Andrew Webb, Rachel MacDonald, Robert Shields, Judy Marsh, Jason David, Ruth Shields, Ivan Watling and Sandy Kara.

The meeting was opened by Robert Shields at 6.08pm

Robert explained the procedures and read the minutes from the previous AGM, the matters arising were discussed.

The 2021 minutes were approved by all

Robert suggested a general report before the next AGM to keep everybody up to date.

Jason gave his report and said that the charity accounts were healthy with cash available in the banks. This was mainly due to the large donation that we received and the fact that we had resumed our usual services.

He stated that we had enough to fund a new minibus without applying for grants. It was agreed to wait a while longer before purchasing a new bus and see how electric buses were progressing.

We have £40000 invested for when we come to buy a new vehicle.

Ruth stated that two groups had inquired about hiring the bus but felt that our charges were too high. We feel they are in line with other services.

Rachel asked, if we needed a tail lift on a future bus. We think this is necessary as it enables us to help users who have disabled passengers.

The meeting progressed to the election of the committee. All agreed to remain in office.

Robert suggested that we obtain new committee members from the base of drivers and escorts, however we need to broaden our base of those immediately.

Any other business.

Judy asked about MIDAS training and it was agreed that the group could pay for any driver wishing to complete a MIDAS course as this would be beneficial to the group.

It was agreed to look into the qualifications needed by younger drivers who don't have D1 on their licence. We could ask the CTA for guidance.

Andrew Webb suggested we put a sign on the front screen of the bus in the form of a board.

Robert said with some of the available cash it would be good to buy new bungys to secure loads in the pen.

It was also suggested to buy a card reader for DAR trips or ask passengers to pay a subscription.

Once again a vote of thanks was raised for our Hon Auditors, Butler and Co. Sandy would write and thank them.

To further raise people's awareness of the group it was decided to put contact details in the Library and CAB office.

Robert and Ruth once again stated that we should make a decision regarding the donated prints. They could be loaned for display in some of the homes or raffled. One could be used as a separate raffle at the concert.

John Sealey offered to take one to the railway club to see if they would like it and Judy Marsh agreed to take the one of Dukes Mill to see if the new developers would like to display it. Robert would offer the coloured one of Brook St to Shields.

The maintenance and cleaning of the bus was the next subject. It was agreed to ask drivers and escort to clean up after each use. Robert and Ruth have at times taken it to their house to use a pressure washer on it as has Dennis Eyles. Many thanks to all those that do try to keep it looking good.

The concert was the next discussion, Sandy asked for mince pies to be made and she said she would ask the Coop and Sainsburys. She also had posters to be distributed to advertise the concert. Robert said that the website was not used very much, again maybe this could be advertised on the bus.

There followed another discussion about a seat by the pond in memory of Joyce and Ian Gilroy. We are waiting for the fishing club to extend the seating area before buying the seat.

Andy mentioned that the side door was playing up again, not shutting properly.

The meeting closed at 7.15pm