

MINUTES OF BEVENDEAN COMMUNITY PUB LTD AGM THURSDAY 26th January 2017

Present:

Aaron Dorgan	Lian Chambers	Mike Wardell
Adrian Towler	Ian Barnett	Neil Hilton
Alastair Cannell	Ian Needham	Nic Blair
Alan Stanley	Ian Tatum	Peter Hartley
Alan Daniel	Joseph Philips	Rachel Greener
Ant Lowe	Jennu Hawke	Raymond Gibbard
Ashley Godson	Joel Greener	Rhiannon Daniel
Bella Stoner	John Japp	Robert Thust
Big Dave	Karen Finley	Sandra Stanley
Ben Paley	Karina Moran	Sam Carroll
Brenda Parsons	Kenneth Valder	Sean Older
Chris Llwellyn	Laurie Mcmillan	Shane Speed
Donna Rix	Lesley Osborne	Shirley Knight
Eilish Jones	Leslie Sinclair	Tracy Thust
Georgina Grant Mills	Kevin Stoner	Walter Sargison
Hanna Armstrong	Mark Everest	Warren Carter
Helen Jones	Michele Lefton	Zoe Rosenfield
Hugh Robinson	Michelle Guyatt	

Apologies:

Lisa Williamson	Nicole Williamson	Nichol Williams
Andrew Williamson	Robert Brown	Anne D Thorne
Matt Clay	Cllr Daniel Yates	Karen Mackey
Fleur Demaine Stone	Danny Crutchley	Perri Butcher
Bruce Demaine Stone	Ingrid Sharp	

Despite 53 members present, the meeting was not quorate. We announced a meeting a week later at the same time on 2nd January 2017 where the motions below were passed. Present:

Bob Thust	Warren Carter	Michelle Guyatt
Helen Jones	Peter Hartley	Jenny Hawke

1. Last years minutes were approved
2. Chairs report

- 2.1. Warren Carter outlined our activities throughout the past year
- 2.2. The Bevy community pub is two years old – and when our story is eventually turned into a Hollywood blockbuster, you won't believe the monumental effort it's taken to keep it ticking over!
- 2.3. We always aimed to be 'more than just a pub' and we have definitely fulfilled that. We now host everything from 'Friday Friends' seniors' lunch club – where local residents enjoy lunch, bingo and a chance to get out and socialise – to the Bevy choir, Bevendean parkrun (now there's a New Year's resolution), Spiral disability, and men and women's darts teams. We built a training kitchen where we've been teaching youngsters to cook and have grown fruit and veg in our edible pub garden. In fact, 70 different groups used the Bevy over the last year including Christmas Carols by the United Churches of Moulsecoomb, tenants' associations, scouts and art and craft groups. 'Little Green Pig' delivered storytelling workshops to Moulsecoomb Primary pupils. We've hosted Health Checks and massage and had garden shows and parties for all age groups from the kids Halloween to a Birthday Party for The Queen. We've hosted the energy advice café and Brains at The Bevy. This is why we can say The Bevy is so much more than just a pub!
- 2.4. Places like the Bevy are becoming even more important as councils stop funding anything that isn't a statutory requirement. You know that every penny you spend helps keep us running and investing back into the local community. So why not pop in for a pint or a coffee or hire us for a celebration.
- 2.5. The Bevy won the prestigious Brighton and Hove 'Best Business in the Community' award and made it to the finals of the Great British Pubs as one of the best community pubs in the UK. The Bevy featured on the One Show programme with Suggs from Madness pulling the pints and the show pulled no punches about the decline of the Great British Pub.
- 2.6. Despite raising over £200,000 to re-open The Bevy we never had enough money to do all the things we promised. Thankfully a grant of £175,000 from Power to Change has changed all that. We now have our own wheelchair accessible Bevy Bus that picks up residents for the Friday Friends lunch club, brings our sponsored rugby team back to the Bevy after games and takes Albion fans to every home league game.
- 2.7. The outside space has been transformed with fencing that keeps children safe, lighting, hundreds of bulbs planted and a mini apple orchard of Sussex fruit trees planted at the back of the pub. We have a training kitchen and employ someone to run events from there and have a marketing budget. We also received money from Pub is the Hub to finally get a hanging, swinging, well-lit pub sign up!
- 2.8. It has always been hard to make the Bevy a sustainable business, but as well as the grant funding we have started to make real progress and are on track to break-even on the trading business for the first time at the end of the year. There is still lots to do, but not bad for a new community business in only its second year.
- 2.9. The Mayor of Brighton, Pete West said, "In my view The Bevy is probably the best thing going on in Brighton right now. Much more than a pub, this cooperative project is a hub for local services and has rapidly become the heart of community life."

3. Finance report and accounts. Three years' worth of accounts were presented by Bob Thust.
 - 3.1.The members thanked Bob, previous Bevy manager Danny Crutchley and our account Gail Bainbridge for the work they have put in to get accounts up to date.
 - 3.2.Accounts were agreed.
 - 3.3.It was also agreed by members that under Rule 6.2 of the society's rules, the society would not require next year's accounts to be audited and did not appoint an auditor, subject to the requirements of the Act.

4. Resolution - Quoracy.
 - 4.1.Our current rules 4.11 state: "Before a Members Meeting can do business, a minimum number of Members (a quorum) must be present. Except where these Rules say otherwise a quorum is present if 5 Members or 10% of the Members entitled to vote at the meeting(whichever is greater) are present."
 - 4.2.Given we have close to 800 members now, 10% is a high figure.
 - 4.3.We propose changing the above so that a meeting is quorate with "5 Members or 5% of the Members entitled to vote at the meeting"
 - 4.4.This resolution was agreed.

5. Voting of new committee members
 - 5.1.Iain Chambers has become the new General Manager so has had to step down
 - 5.2.Lee Osborne, Adrian Towler, John Horsfield, Father John Wall and John Williams resigned during the year and we would like to thank them for their support.
 - 5.3.Remainder of previous committee voted back on and additional member approved: Bob Thust (treasurer)
 - 5.4.Committee now: Warren Carter (chair), Helen Jones (Secretary), Bob Thust (Treasurer), Michelle Guyatt, Jenny Hawke, Peter Hartley

6. AOB
 - 6.1.Friends of the Bevy. Helen and Iain spoke how members who don't want to get involved in the management committee can get involved from occasional building work, painting, gardening, helping out on busy days. The more volunteer work, the more money the Bevy saves – and we can keep prices competitive.
 - 6.2.We also asked members for their support in our petition to challenge Brighton Council over their refusal to give us full discretionary business rates