



ROCKLANDS COMMUNITY SHOP

MINUTES OF MEETING

held on 13th November 2024 at 7.30pm in shop and chaired by DS

Present: Phil Dingle(PD)*, Tim Ford* (TF), Ian Harrison*(IH), Cath Jones*(CJ), Andrew Russell* (AR), David Seaton* (DS)

Apologies for absence: Victoria McArthur *(VM), Jane Stubbs(JS)**and Alan (AJ)and Elaine(EJ) Johnson

(* committee member; ** manager)

Minutes of last meeting were agreed and signed as a correct record.

There were no **declarations of interest**.

Matters arising (not covered elsewhere on agenda):

- Thanks to AR from CJ for producing minutes from October meeting
- DS reported slight progress with access to website but still a long way to go.....
- Coldlink – no further update from last meeting
- Minor repairs had been done and new fridge in café purchased and installed by a volunteer.

Wholesaler

Plunketts had sent an offer of alternative wholesaler (Youings) but JS had explained that this was not viable as it did not cover all our current stock and we would not be able to meet minimum order levels.

Phoneline and Broadband

TF had circulated a letter from our current provider regarding impending changeover to digital from analogue phonelines. After discussion, it was agreed that TF would investigate our requirements from Jane and the team (eg equal download and upload speeds?)and would negotiate a best deal on our behalf, in comparison with other companies.

Advertising

Request from Waylander Magazine for renewal of subscription was discussed and rejected as not cost-effective, especially as we are still running at a loss. AR will cancel subscription.

Managers' Report

Not available yet. CJ reported what JS had told her about new POL rep – Tracey has moved on in POL but no details of her replacement as yet. JS negotiating Bookers deliveries on Dec. 24th and 31st being negotiated at convenient time to us.

Finance

- Bank balances reported
AR explained drop since last month, which had good reasons and was not cause for concern any more than usual. With news of big changes in POL structures and promises of possible higher remuneration for postmasters, we are hopeful of a big difference to our finances if they come to fruition.
- Bills and wages paid.
- Trading figures remain fairly constant, in spite of rising prices.
- Preparation for annual accounts moving forward and all is on schedule for them being with LB in December as planned.
- Sage figures are improving.
- TF passed information about possible grants from Breckland DC to AR.
- Extra costs following recent Budget (increased Living Wage and NI costs) were discussed.
- AR will consult with managers about checking best-selling items and also things that are not shifting off shelves with a view to increased efficiency.

Correspondence

Nothing significant that hasn't already been circulated/discussed

AOB

- One of our regular customers and an original committee member, David Witt, died in October. His family has approached CJ with a request that funds raised in his memory are used 'for the village'. She has agreed that the monies can be paid into shop account and will be used specifically for something to be used by the community in his memory. (Actual amount is not yet known so no plans can be made.)
- Christmas Carol Singing session will be held outside shop on Christmas Eve as usual at 11 am. Collection bucket will be passed round in aid of EACH. Hot punch and mince pies will be provided.

Next meeting arranged for Wednesday 11th December 2024 at 7.30pm.

Meeting closed at 20.36.