

# **Bright Exchange**

## **Annual General Meeting on 28 September 2019**

### **Present:**

Core Group: Deborah Knowles (Co-ordinator), Pat White, Kelly Keep (Membership)  
Maggie Chamberlain (Administrator), Suzi Conway (Treasurer)

Members: Liz Quelch, Fiona Mainstone (Promotion)

**Apologies:** Barry Fairburn, Yasmin Kapadia, Monica Willis, Karen Shepherd

**Venue:** Goldstone Club, Shirley Street, Hove

The meeting was not quorate but as the last AGM was also not quorate it was agreed we could make any necessary decisions. All Core group members were present.

1. Approval of last AGM minutes – minutes not presented

2. Core group roles

Co-ordinator Deborah and Treasurer Suzi were voted in again and are account signatories.

### **3. REPORTS**

#### **Treasurer - Suzi**

Up to date bank account statement was presented with current account balance. The accounts are available to view by any member on request.

### **Agenda Proposals for discussion and vote**

Presented by Deborah;

#### **1. To disaffiliate from Lets link**

It was unanimously agreed at last year's AGM to disaffiliate from Lets link but it was not quorate. This was unanimously agreed again and carried. This required no discussion. LetsLink as it used to be is no longer operational and we continue to pay an annual fee.

#### **2. To close down the current website**

If we disaffiliate from LetsLink then we can no longer use their website platform.

*Discussion redacted*

Alternative proposal 1 - Maggie

To remain with current website until we have a basic website set up and running and a clear plan agreed with the developer for implementation.

Alternative proposal 2 - Fiona

To vote on 3 options;

1. To close website now
2. To close website on January 1<sup>st</sup> deadline
3. To close later when we have new website set up

Option 2 to close in January was carried by a majority vote as a compromise.

It was agreed not to notify Lets link at this stage until we are ready to close.

### **3. To create a simpler system prior to recruitment drive**

*Discussion redacted*

### **4. To commission a new website on our terms and to be under groups control**

*Discussion redacted*

Getting the information off our current website;

*Discussion redacted*

To check about our domain name if we close current website

*Action – Suzi*

To set up BE Facebook page

*Action - Suzi*

## **Other Business**

It was suggested for a new Website sub-group to form to provide a focus for website development.

There are some good things about current website. Maggie as Admin is main person using the website so has a good idea of the functionality and what works or does not. Suzi has specialist knowledge in this area.

*Action - Maggie and Suzi to meet initially to make a list of functionalities*

Next Promotion group meeting was arranged.

Any member can contribute suggestions to these groups but sub-groups will be more focused.

Concern raised by Maggie about our membership not increasing since the last AGM as expected. We have a small number of new members but some older members have left and others have been removed, by Admin, so member numbers are lower and some of these are inactive members.

It was suggested to promote and increase membership numbers prior to getting a new website as then new member fees will bring in income to pay for the website. Others felt a new website is needed in order to attract new members to join and stay or both could be done simultaneously.

Maggie said there will be a lot of admin and updating work involved for a new website which Deborah assured that she and Fiona could do.

Any new system has to be a simple process according to our Principles and reconnecting with our core values.

Notes of discussion after the AGM meeting closed;

Brights currency – do we keep it or change it?

Do we set limit on debts?

We could automatically remove members who do not trade in a year or whom are in static debt, after contacting them first.

Member annual fee – we have not taken fees for some years. A new website will involve considerable cost so maybe we should request fees to be paid. Maggie said we did previously agree to change the term fee to donation instead. New members pay a joining fee (10 or 6 pounds) which brings in our income.

We do not yet know how much a new website will cost so before we request donations, we should have some idea of cost so that we raise what we need.