



LRSB Minutes Thursday 25th January 2018 The Bell Inn

Attending: Frances T (chair); Roger C-O; Janet R; Rob B; Ruth M; Sandra Maizelle (Rotary); Jo & James Raider; Jan Broom; Karen F; Georgy Bellem; Joe Thompson; Sylvia Wright; Terry F; Bill G; Serena Collins (Cornwall Council)

Apologies: Trevor C; Elspeth N; Philip M

Reports & discussion:

Treasurer:

- £6000+ in our account now
- Including £241 raised from Jo Raider's lunch
- £130 a month from regular donations; we should encourage more
- Special events are what has brought most funds.
- Thanks to Elspeth and the South Hill choir for helping us raise £204.69
- Thanks to Alan from the Labour Party for his individual contribution

Secretary:

- The Charity Application has been submitted; we should hear in the next month or so.
- We have been awarded £300 from Town Council; FT will attend the presentation on 18th April
- Frances will attend a Rotary Club meeting on Monday February 26th to promote our cause.
- BG will attend a Crowdfunder workshop on February 5th, and will launch a campaign shortly

Chair:

- Carol Singing in the Square was successful despite the rain; thanks to all.
- Weekly collections of items for refugee camps are successful; response has been good.
- Jane Clarke is passing on the responsibilities of organising events; can we find a volunteer(s) to take on this role?

Serena Collins (Cornwall Council)

Serena gave a comprehensive review of the county situation, including:

Job Club; Interpreter work; Social meetings for families; Strategic group including all partners (DWP; Health; Housing etc.) meet regularly.

Cornwall Council has taken a slow, steady approach; there is now a greater willingness to be more pro-active.

A hybrid model of establishing a family in Launceston is suggested: The Council will take on the draw-down of government funding; (£8K per person); the community group would be willing to work on housing, integration, schools etc.

Caution urged: groundwork to be done to combat fear, racism, etc.

IOM (International Organisation of Migration) all day training on 27th March; we must send representatives.

Michael Quirk has offered TEFL help; he works with the Bude family & we'd welcome his input. Sylvia Wright has also volunteered her expertise.

Serena will provide a 'wish list' of skills & resources our group will need.

Legal specialist skills re: immigration are much in demand; immigrants will have a 5 year 'leave to remain' status, but all are unsure about what happens after 5 years.

NHS Kernow receive funds for health & dentistry. Mental health support is also needed; FT has experience and can guide us.

Our housing offer is currently being checked by police, and will also have to be approved by Serena on behalf of CC.

It was proposed that we pursue the 'hybrid model' outlined. This was carried unanimously.

Events/Fundraising:

The minimum target under the 'hybrid model' is £8/9,000.

Regular givers are needed: our bank details again are:

Bank Account name: **Launceston Refugee Support Group**

Account number: **24335460**

Sort Code: **30-94-91**

Events: Film Evening proposed by Roger; he will continue to plan.

Music Event: Jane Clarke has booked a date; FT to forward details. BG to check whether we can put the date back.

Sponsored walk: Georgy B will organise for a summer date

Other suggestions:

Business sponsorship

Collection/Information at Tesco

Victorian Market - last Saturday in June: we can have a table

Summer Picnic on the Parade Ground

Joe Thompson suggests a charity dinner/supper. He'll bring details to our next meeting.

It is suggested that we all explore fundraising opportunities.....

AOB

We should invite Mary Whibley (Bude) to our next meeting (FT to pass on details)

Membership forms to be sent to several

Dates of our next Meetings:

Thursday 22nd February (apologies from R C-O)

Thursday 29th March (apologies from BG)