

LLANGOLLEN FOOD SHARE AGM 20th FEBRUARY 2024

Attendees: Graham Timms, Gill Robertson, Stephanie Morgan, Angela Williams, Stephanie Mitchell, Clive Robertson, David Williams, Lesley Carol, Jess Hart, Marie Manning

Apologies : Jen Naylor, Laurence O'Donnell, Matilda

The minutes of the previous AGM were proposed as correct by Gill Robertson and seconded by Stephanie Morgan

Chairmans Report Graham welcomed everyone to the first AGM held since achieving Charity status in August 2023. Being a Charity requires extra accounting work which falls to the treasurer, but the benefits are big. The ability to claim 25% Gift Aid on eligible donations which has already made is £100's. Graham thanked Gill for her work as treasurer. Charitable status has not made any difference day to day but funders look more favourably on Charities, so we are hopeful of more opportunities. It is not limiting us in anything that we do

He thanked the volunteers, their partners/husbands/wives. Angela said that Steph Mitchell has gone above and beyond several times.

He explained how we had stepped in in July 2023 when the Welsh Government stopped funding lunches during holiday time for those children who receive free school meals in term time. We provided meals for around 70 children each holiday week during the Summer, October and Christmas 2023 and February half term in 2024. The meals were funded by SDCP

We now have a formal website with a giving platform to accept online donations via Charities Aid Foundation. We can also accept donations by Paypal, Standing Order/Direct Debit and we have a Sum Up card reader

We are looking at the Ectarc building and are looking for funding

We had amazing feedback from the Public Consultation carried out in January 2023 which showed amazing support for Foodshare.

Looking forward to applying to bigger funding pots ie National Lottery £100,000 for 3 years – consultation evidence will be a great help.

We are cooking regularly and have a food hygiene rating of 5, hope to give cookery lessons

Gill presented the finance report to end November 2023:

The financial year December 2022 to November 2023 found us having to be totally self-sufficient regarding income and expenditure, SDCP having covered overheads in the previous year.

Our accounts for the year have been inspected and a Charity Commission Independent Examiners Report on the Accounts has been issued. All the financial documents for the year were available on the website when the formal notice of the AGM was issued on 19th January. You will have seen that we obtained grant funding from the Wind Farm (£10,000), a Community Resilience Grant from DCC (£7824), a grant from Moondance towards our Managers salary (£12.852) and a grant to cover our rent for 3 years from Community Foundation Wales (£4914 per year) to highlight just a few.

All grants come with restrictions concerning how they should be spent. The wind farm grant allowed £4000 to be spent on food, and the community resilience fund paid for 1 year Fareshare Membership, but all other grant income could not be spent on food.

Corporate donations amounted to £7495 and Public Donations were £6398. We were therefore able to easily cover our food spend of around £170 per week and to purchase an additional Fareshare half membership at £19 per week. Moving in to the current financial year we do not have the benefit of Wind Farm money, but we will receive 2 full memberships of Fareshare which are valued at £4000 from the DCC Community Resilience Fund.

We have operated a Community Fridge since June 2023. This has been funded by Co-Op through the Hubbub network. This means we have been able to offer surplus food collected from supermarkets to everyone in the community. The purpose of the Community Fridge is to prevent food waste. There is a clear distinction between the free surplus we collect from supermarkets for Community Fridge and the food that we purchase to distribute to those in need.

At the end of the financial year we received a £5000 grant from Hubbub to enable us to launch cookery lessons during this year, a project which is currently being organised.

We have worked to reduce our overheads during the year and were able to switch energy suppliers greatly reducing the standing charges and slightly reducing the unit cost. This will be looked at further when the contracts require renewal. The waste disposal costs were particularly high, the contract finished in January this year and we have changed provider which will result in a 50% saving.

Now that we are a registered charity we are able to collect Gift Aid from the public donations through the HMRC scheme. Our regular donors have completed gift aid declarations and small cash donations can also be included through what is known as a Small Donation Gift Aid scheme. This will give an uplift of 25% to the value of most public donations.

Stephanie Mitchell proposed that the accounts be accepted, Angela Williams seconded.

Election of Trustees

Graham Timms, Gill Robertson and Stephanie Morgan stood down as trustees in accordance with our constitution which states that they should at the first AGM. All three put themselves forward for re-election, Lesley Carol proposed their election and Marie Manning seconded

Graham asked if there were others who wished to become trustees and Angela Williams responded that she would be willing

There was no other business