**Cam Valley Arts Trail Meeting Minutes 13 April 2015**

**Present:**

Kate Westcott (chair), Lucy Empson (secretary), Diana Connor, Ginny Lake, Helen Rushton, Jenny Lancaster, , Linda O’Gorman, Lila Streether, John Hayhoe, Sophie Piddock

**1.Welcome & Apologies**

 Apologies: Andrew Eddleston, Jo Eddleston, Ann Robb, Martin Rumary, Matt, Sheila, Karen G, Karen A, Jonathan Pearce

**2. Matters Arising**

Minutes of from AGM 13 April 2015

1. Reminder about renewing Membership fees – please contact Sheila.

**3. Midsomer Arts Festival**

We welcomed Martyn Plant, Head of Art Norton Hill School, who gave us information about the Midsomer Arts Festival and their plans for this year. I have copied the info from his email as summarises what he told us:

“The festival is an opportunity to promote and encourage engagement and appreciation of the arts within Midsomer Norton, Somervalley and the surrounding area. It has grown out of art projects we have done in the past
in Norton Hill School and the community.
The plan is to have art work displayed widely around the town, within shops, cafes, vacant units, communal spaces. We are making work within the secondary schools to be displayed around Midsomer Norton high street, and
students are working with several local artists on public art projects. On Saturday 27th June we are having a day of activities on Midsomer Norton high street. There will be a large a communal art activity led by Midsomer Norton
in Bloom, music performances by groups and individuals, and stalls/spaces where artists and makers can display their work, and other art activities.
We have also created large shovels for artists, groups, schools to decorate,which we will display around the area.

I wanted to invite your members to
 \* Decorate a shovel
 \* Display one or a small amount of work in an exhibition space

or on Saturday 27th June
 \* Display their work along the riverside on Midsomer Norton high street
 \* Offer an art activity

I am also happy to hear any other ideas or offers of help.”

The group was enthusiastic about taking part either to make a shovel; exhibit works on the railings; have stalls or take on one of the empty shops – also exhibiting with some artworks by the school students. We also discussed future ideas for workshops in the school, which could be a good on-going link for the primary school pupils we have had workshops with on our Trail. Please look at their website and facebook page:

[http://midsomerartsfestival.weebly.com](http://midsomerartsfestival.weebly.com/)
<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Midsomer-Arts-Festival/902745126434357?fref=t>

There was discussion about fees/ commission and insurance implications which would all need further thought by Members. We agreed we would like to be involved in some way, and would have further discussion s and then contact Martyn about how we would support the Festival.

**4. Spring Sale**

1. Time 9am to set up. Open from 11 to 5pm. Clearing up to 6pm.
2. Numbers taking part: There are 20 pitches booked (Sophie went through the list she has from Karen). There may be a pitch available if Sophie doesn’t take part. TBC.
3. Refreshments – please all try and bring one cake/biscuits to sell on the stall. (this may mean we have too much to sell, based upon last year, but will ensure there is enough choice). Please list main ingredients so Ginny knows what is gluten free/contains nuts etc

**5. Spring Sale – roles on the day**

1. Front of house/welcome table. All artists to share out this role on the day, this will mean only 15-20mins each away from your table to do this and we will share out the role of looking after peoples stalls.
2. Suggestion of the tea tables having a pot of geraniums with pastels or pencils and paper available to encourage visitors to do still life drawing. There was concern about mixing pastels with food, so coloured pencils are to be available (all to bring any spare) and Diana will donate some and a ‘pattern book’ for visitors to use as well.
3. Ginny will run the refreshments (with help!)
4. Help in setting up and taking down of all the stalls/tables/chairs etc in the hall is expected from all the artists taking part.
5. Activity on the day: the colouring/drawing around the tea tables and the ‘spot the blackbird’ we did last year (we assume Karen still has the laminated blackbirds)
6. Demonstrations: Demos will be done at each artists stand (we are concerned about spare room for this in the hall). Those doing demos so far – Jo; Diana (coloured pencils); Helen (feltmaking); Jenny (spinning); Lucy (hedgehog books – please bring any old paperbacks we can use); Martin (painting?)

**6. Publicity**

1. Flyers: Diana did a great job giving out lots of flyers at the Nunney Fair. She asked if there were any spare, so contact Karen if you have any more to give out.
2. Advert: Sophie volunteered to fund an advert in the Journal (many thanks)
3. Banners: we think most of the banners have dates for the November Trail
4. Boards: We have 10 boards with details of the event on ready to be put up. We need the boards to go up on the farm opposite the Hall – and need to make further contact with the owners. We also need help to put the boards up – Clive has already offered, many thanks, and need a few more to help out. Please get in touch with Karen.
5. Posters – we have an A4 poster version of the flyer – if anyone can laminate some at A4 to put up on lampposts and other locations such as shops etc. Karen will send an email with the poster so we can all print some out to put up.

**7. Funding update**

1. Sheila has received funding of £100 from the High Littleton Village Day. Thank you to go out.
2. Please look out for any other funding opportunities, as we won’t have the monies from Curo or the Councillors again this year

**8. Meet the Artist and Newsletter**

1. John will do some info for a future ‘meet the artist’ piece for the website. We just need a couple of photos and some brief descriptions of what you do/ what inspires you as an artist. Look at the current profiles on the website for inspiration!
2. Many people had not been able to look at the newsletter on the website – the password wasn’t easy to use and it didn’t always work to get to the members page. Many would prefer an occasional email/printed version instead that could be collected from the meetings so we don’t have to post them out.

**9. AOB**

1. John had brought some paintings for the Curo display. Please see the email request for photos of works or some small pieces for the display at Curos office (Karen is collecting this). The theme is ‘Nature and Community’. John to take the artwork to Karen.
2. Pauline Palmer is publicising her Life Drawing classes to members. 5 weeks from Friday 17th April. Contact her on 01761 221265 or pandjpalmer@yahoo.co.uk

**Next meeting:**

**7.30pm Monday 11th May at the Railway, Clutton**

All welcome