**Cam Valley Arts Trail Meeting Minutes 11 May 2015**

**Present:**

Karen George (Chair), Kate Westcott, Lucy Empson (secretary), Ginny Lake, Jenny Lancaster, John Hayhoe, Martin Rumary, Jo Eddleston, Christine Weaver, Jacqui Howell, Linda O’Gorman

**1.Welcome & Apologies**

 Apologies: Andrew Eddleston, , Ann Robb, Matt, Sheila Richardson, Karen Aniola, Jonathan Pearce, Diana Connor, Helen Rushton, Lila Streether, Sophie Piddock, Ellen Holt

**2. Matters Arising**

Minutes from meeting 13 April 2015

1. Actions to be picked up in meeting Agenda below.

2. Groups involvement in the Midsomer Trail Spring Event (below)

**3. Spring Sale**

1. We had 145 visitors. Many thanks to Ginny for her help all day in the kitchen with the tea and cakes. Thanks to Clive and others for putting up and taking down the signs and banners and to everyone who took part.

2. Feedback forms completed by all artists. Overall conclusions were that they liked the venue, generally positive feedback on the whole event, and that it had a ‘buzzy’ feel.

3. Felt that the welcome desk and drawing activities worked well, and that we should have this welcoming feel at all our events for the main Trail.

4. Suggestion that we should consider extending the ‘food’ offer at the event – such as bacon rolls/bbq possibly extending outdoors into a marquee.

**4. Membership**

Reminder that membership renewal is overdue for this year. Sheila will send reminders to members who joined last year and have not yet renewed.

**5. Finance and Funding**

1. We made £114 from the tea and cakes at the Spring Sale. All artists at the sale agreed that any 'left over' pitch fee (after hire and publicity expenses) should be put towards workshops.

2. Balance in the account is £1206.06.

3. Discussed sending a letter about the Arts Trail to potential sponsors (such as local galleries or firms, Ken Biggs etc). Sophie to liaise with Jackie about the wording in the letter and publicity.

4 Please look out for any other funding opportunities, as we won’t have the monies from Curo or the Councillors again this year – send any info to Ginny.

**6. Summer Events**

We supported and attended lots of local summer events last year to publicise the group (with displays/ leaflets/ making workshops etc). Events we are going to this year are:

 Timsbury Fun Day 20 June

Paulton in the Park 18 July

High Littleton and Hallatrow 29 August (any volunteers to judge one of the prizes?)

Clutton Flower Show 8th August

High Littleton School Summer Fair 11 July (Art event supporting Village Day)

**7. Enquiries from other art groups**

1.Whitchurch Art Group has made an enquiry to take part in our Trail – and have their own venue. They are looking for a venue for up to 100 paintings which is what they have exhibited before. As the group is outside of our area, we suggest offering that individuals in the group who live or work in our area are able to join as members and then take part in our events as they choose.

2. There was a discussion that the group feels we should ‘consolidate’ our venues and artists this year, rather than looking to spread out to include lots of other venues or make it larger scale.

**8. Midsomer Arts Festival**

Karen has spoken with Martin a few times since the last meeting. Our options for taking part in the Festival are:
 \* Decorate a shovel. The shovel are free. Discussed having 2 or 3, one for the group with a collage of the blackbirds perhaps? We need confirmation of the date they need to be completed. Could they then be bought by us in the ‘charity sale’ to use for our other events?
 \* CVAT could book 2 pitches at The Hollies for a display on Saturday 27th June. The shop space is not available. We suggest having 1 or 2 tables as a group with a sample of our work for sale. Kate suggested printing some blackbird tea towels (or similar item) for sale to raise money for our group.

 \* Having one shop venue to ourselves for the whole week was thought to be more difficult to support with enough volunteers.
 \* Display their work along the riverside on Midsomer Norton High Street. 10% of sales goes to the event/charity. We thought that as individuals could take part in this if they wish, or in any of the other activities

**9. Publicity**

1. Members page on the website – the password has been updated. This will be emailed to members. There will also be an email to ask if people on the general mailing list want to unsubscribe.
2. Newsletter – a new newsletter will be posted on the page. If you have any news or info you would like to tell the group about, please send it to Karen.
3. Articles/Local publications. Please send any contacts to Jacqui. The Camerton and Timsbury Letter to be included.
4. Meet the Artist. John and everyone – please send the info with a couple of photos to include on this page.
5. Curo display – all prepared for their main office, but not yet on display. We can apply to Curo again after April for a funding application, but we will need to have a new ‘project’ theme.

**10. Registration for 2015 Trail**

1. The leaflet cards are prepared for Artists Registration
2. Fees: Discussed the arrangement from last year of £10 individual members registration plus the pitch fee for artists at each venue. Agreed to increase registration to £15 for members and £25 for non members - both exclusive of pitch fee. Non members will also require their own insurance for the event. The increase in registration fee is to ensure we can more effectively publicise the event.
3. The Trail will have an emphasis on art and crafts that are made and are their own works. It is not intended for the Trail to become an arts and craft market.
4. OBA members are to be offered the Members rate to participate this year, to reflect their continued support for the arts trail.

**11. Funding update**

1. Paulton Parish Council funding of £150. Thank you letter has been sent
2. High Littleton Village Day has been thanked.
3. Clutton Parish Council – Sophie to contact about supporting the Trail
4. Melton Gallery – Colin Litherland to be thanked.
5. Swan Artworks - may support us again this year. Request to be made.
6. Sanctuary Housing advertised their Grand Ideas fund. Ginny to follow up.
7. Please look out for any other funding opportunities, as we won’t have the monies from Curo or the Councillors again this year.

**12. AOB**

1. Should we consider a new theme for the Arts Trail this year? The weekend coincides with Remembrance Weekend. Potential links with schools (Karen has a contact at Camerton and Farrington Gurney) ; music events or through the workshops? Other themes such as creative writing and author events. Activities around the issues of older peoples isolation/inter-generations or activities such as being venues for afternoon tea/cakes and an art show?
2. Suggestions for the Arts Trail such as helping with transporting visitors between our venues (community minibus support?). Workshops within care homes/ elderly sheltered accommodation / friendship clubs etc? Establish more links with youth clubs/scouts/guides etc. Meadgate connections.

**Next meeting:**

**7.30pm Monday 8th June at the Railway, Clutton**

All welcome