



**Annual General Meeting**  
**11am Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2012**  
**The Engine House, Highley**

**Attendees:**

Connie Baines – Bridgnorth Town Council, Tom Brettell – Shropshire Council, Bridget Cash - Upton Cressett Hall, Carol Cooper – Chairman Bridgnorth & District Tourist Association, Barry England – Bridgnorth Museum, Peter George – Daniels Mill, Nadine Holland-Bailey – Bridgnorth VIC, Tim King – Shropshire Council, Keith Lincoln – Finance Director, Bridgnorth and District Tourist Association, David Mee – Severn Valley Railway, Simon McCloy – Shropshire Tourism, Linda Robinson – The Croft, David Robinson – Company Secretary, Jodie Stephen – Shropshire Tourism, Lisa Smith – Severn Valley Railway, Sally Tallents – Hohnill, Anthony Webb – Vice Chairman, Rob Weston – The Severn Arms

The Chairman, Carol Cooper welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked David Mee for arranging the Engine House as the venue to host the event

**1. Apologies**

The following apologies were received:

Mike Brogden – Ferndale Flat, Karen Crick – RAF Cosford, Judy Harvey – The Green Holiday Barns, Gavin Hamilton – Apley Farm Shop, Emily Knight – National Trust, Maurice & Eileen Knott – The George, Alison Mawdsley – Churchdown House, Robert Milton – Churches Conservation Trust, Lyn Pope – Washhouse B&B, Sue Price – Coppice View B&B, Dee Revell – Bramley, Phil & Jane Secrett – Field House, Malvern Tipping – Bridgnorth Cliff Railway, Anne Wilson – Bridgnorth Town Council, Peter & Gilly Wooldridge – Jacob's Cottage

**2. Minutes and Matters Arising**

The minutes of the 2011 AGM were reviewed and declared as being a true and accurate record.

There were no matters arising.

**3. Chairman's Report**

Carol Cooper presented the chairman's report starting with thanking the board for their support, and also Shropshire Tourism.

She mentioned they were in the process of producing the 2013 Where to Stay guide and they were re-printing the Bridgnorth Town Map. This was a leaflet that had previously been produced by Shropshire Council and BDTA had now taken ownership of it, and along with funding from Bridgnorth Town Council and advertisement sales, they were planning to print 20,000 copies in the New Year. Carol took the opportunity to thank the Town Council, with whom they had formed a good working relationship.

She touched on the need to convince the retail and catering businesses in town that they were an important part of the tourism industry, quoting figures from the 2005 Economic Impact Assessment which stated that 1.8 million people visited Bridgnorth, spending £30 million on catering and £24 million on retail.

With regards to funding Carol stated that the Association had this year received half the Service Level Agreement from Shropshire Council that they had received last year, a total of £1,500, however this was likely to be zero next year.

Carol also touched on highlights of the past year for the area which included the Olympics, the Queens Jubilee visit to RAF Cosford, the 120<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Bridgnorth Cliff Railway and the sale of shares in the Severn Valley Railway, which BDTA had brought into.

Carol took the opportunity to inform the members that this would be her last AGM as Chair after 11 years. The board thanked her for her years of support and dedication.

#### **4. Treasurer's Report**

David Robinson presented the audited accounts.

He stated that the Association had this year made a profit of £2,650, which was positive after last year's deficit.

David went on to mention the brochure production and the profit that had been made this year. But also the lack of funding they were likely to receive in the future. However they would continue to apply for grants from Town Councils which had proved successful in the past.

He then asked the AGM to approve the accounts.

Proposed – Rob Weston.

Seconded – Anthony Webb

All members in favour.

#### **5. (i) Election of the Board**

Simon McCloy presented the election of board members, all existing members had indicated a willingness to re-stand.

The members were asked to accept the re-appointment of all existing board members on block:

Carol Cooper  
Anthony Webb  
David Robinson  
Keith Lincoln

Sally Tallents  
Karen Crick  
David Mee  
Rob Weston  
Emily Knight

Proposed – Connie Baines

Seconded – Nadine Holland-Bailey

All members in favour.

#### **(ii) Election of Directors**

Simon also presented the election of directors, all existing directors had indicated a willingness to re-stand.

Carol Cooper  
Anthony Webb  
David Robinson  
Keith Lincoln

Proposed – Rob Weston  
Seconded – Nadine Holland-Bailey  
All members in favour.

## **6. Any Other Urgent Business**

Chairman Carol Cooper invited the floor to announce any news or updates regarding their business.

She asked Tom Brettell to run through recent developments taking place in Bridgnorth that he was involved in as the Senior Community Action Officer.

Tom updated the Market Town Revitalisation Project which involved the physical enhancement and interpretation of the Stoneway Steps and Castle Walk, the riverside enhancement scheme, and enhancements at Severn Park.

Tom also talked about the re-opening of St Leonards Church with the addition of new toilets, kitchen area and central heating system that they had part funded.

Mrs Cash from Upton Cressett Hall informed the members of the Grade I listing they had achieved, and asked for the associations support campaigning against proposed wind farms in the area.

Barry England from Bridgnorth Museum spoke about Museum activities and that they were looking for volunteers

The meeting was brought to a close by the Chairman at 11.40am.