

## CROSTHWAITE & LYTH WI MINUTES – 20 November 2019

### Part 1 of the Meeting – Monthly Business

1. The President (DP) welcomed members to the meeting and went through the usual “housekeeping” information regarding the signing in sheet, fire exits and evacuation procedure in the event of a fire.
2. **Election of President – voting procedure:** The President explained that there would be no requirement to elect Officers to the Committee. Over and above the Committee Members, others may be co-opted to the Committee, as required. DP then welcomed Karen Hanks and Lilian Berry, who would act as Tellers for the election of the President.
3. **Minutes of the last Meeting:** The Minutes of the last meeting, held in October 2019, were agreed as a true record and were signed by the President. There were no matters arising.
4. **President’s Business**
  - a) **Trophies won at the Westmorland Show:** The President offered thanks to Anne, Vonnie and Marilyn for co-ordinating the work on the co-operative displays, which had resulted in winning 3 trophies: the Doreen Galbraith Salver for Class A1 (Market Day), the Burrow Trophy for Class C7 (5 varieties of vegetables) and the Kathleen Hunter Rose Bowl for Class A2 (A Market from Around the World). The trophies and associated certificates were on display for Members to look at.
  - b) **Group Meeting:** This event, hosted by Cartmel Fell WI, had been very pleasing in spite of the entertainer (a Magician) failing to appear! Karen Hanks and Lilian Berry had saved the day with their impromptu presentations instead.
  - c) **Council Meeting:** Marilyn had attended this meeting as our WI’s delegate and presented a report to Members. Notable points had been £2482, which had been raised for ACWW, annual subscriptions would be increasing to £43 and there was a £5000 deficit in our Federations’ fees. The Centenary challenge for next year would focus on anything from the past, relevant to WI communities. Long Membership presentations had been made and various events were planned for 2020. Harry Jefferson had delivered a talk on what is involved in the backstage management when producing plays. The Speaker at next year’s meeting would be Lillian Bell from “*the Archers*.”
  - d) **Federation Quiz:** 2 teams from our WI had participated and whilst the evening had been enjoyed by all 8 participants, no prizes were won!
  - e) **Future Events:**
    - **Crosthwaite Christmas Fair (7.12.19)** – donations of cakes and preserves were invited and a rota of helpers for the stall was circulated. Proceeds would go to WI funds, less the table cost of £7.00.
    - **AGM 2020 Resolutions:** these had appeared in the November issue of WI Life, Members were asked to complete the forms and submit them at the January meeting to enable the Secretary to return these by the deadline of 14 February 2020.
5. **Secretary’s correspondence and newsletter**
  - A card had been received from co-President, Anne Douglas, thanking Members for the good wishes, card, flowers and kind thoughts extended to her during her recent medical treatment. In the handwritten note, Anne explained she had decided to tender her resignation from the Committee, to allow her to focus on her continuing health issues. The card was put on display for Members to read.
  - Highlights from the newsletter included the invitation to join the Federation Trustees for a seasonal gathering at the office on 17 December, the Centenary Celebration Concert on 31 January 2020 at Kendal Parish Church, the CFWFI Centenary Tree Planting on 20 February 2020 at Holehird Gardens and the festival of Readings and Carols also at the Parish Church on 6 December.
6. **Programme Secretary’s report**
  - Jean Sceal explained that tonight’s speaker would not be in attendance owing to her husband’s illness. If anybody had made up kits for the 3<sup>rd</sup> world Days for Girls charity for sustainable hygiene, the Jean would take these to Arnside. Kits would also be accepted at the January meeting.
  - Barbie, who is unable to continue in her role as Assistant Programme Secretary in 2020, was thanked by Jean for her assistance on finding speakers.
  - In July 2020 Members will be able to enjoy a summer outing to Swarthmoor Hall where coffee and lunch would be on offer.
  - Bingley WI had extended an offer to Members to join their summer outing (6 August 2020) to visit Saltaire. Jean had not yet replied but would confirm Member’s interest to the Bingley ladies.
  - After Jean had outlined the proposed programme for 2020 to Members and Members had confirmed they were happy with it, the President offered thanks to Jean and Barbie for pulling this together.

## **Part 2 of the Meeting – 2018/19 AGM – 7.30 pm**

1. **Treasurer's Report & its adoption:** Kath Edwards presented her report for the 2018/19 year, highlighting that at the year-end (31/10/19) the bank balance stood at £3294.11 although there remained some uncleared cheques to go through, which were equivalent to £270. There was £69 in petty cash and £81 had been received from Gift Aid. Members' attention was drawn to the Mission statement at the foot of the Treasurer's report and the Argles Hall rental fees had been adjusted. Anne Smith proposed adoption of the report and Geraldine Wilson seconded this. Kath then explained that she would be standing down as Treasurer.
2. **Appointment of independent financial auditor:** Jonathan Rashleigh was prepared to audit the accounts again in 19/20 and had expressed his preference to use an electronic spreadsheet, which he would be prepared to populate from any handwritten accounts book used by the incoming Treasurer.
3. **Secretary's Annual Report & its adoption:** Glyn Bosson presented her annual report which offered a summary of the year's events and portrayed a thriving WI which had continued to engage women from the village to share laughter, friendship and fun. Jean Sherratt proposed adoption of the report and it was seconded by Jean Cheeseman.
4. **President's 2019 Address:** This further summarised the WI's year, with thanks expressed to individuals who had made particular contributions (such as the Spring Lunch at the Black Labrador (Geraldine)), those involved in 'Get Creative' event (Anne, Geraldine & helpers), the Autumn theatre trip (Jean Sherratt), and the Committee for their support. A special mention was made for A Douglas, CHolmes, E Maidment, B Handley and K Edwards who would all be stepping down from the Committee. There was also acknowledgement to Jim Bownass for his technical support and to Verline for providing raffle prizes. 2019 would also be Verline's last year in fulfilling this role and a volunteer would be required to undertake this duty. Members accepted the President's report.
5. **Teller – Election of the Committee and Ballot for President:**
  - No election of Committee Members would be required and the names of the new (9) Committee members were presented to Members (D Park, G Bosson, C Gibson, P Howarth, J Sceal, J Sherratt, M Shuttleworth, C Walling and Geraldine Wilson).
  - The President could only be chosen from these Officers and each member was invited to submit her vote for the Presidency. Karen and Lilian, acting as Tellers, confirmed there were 4 nominations for the President; C Gibson, D Park, G Bosson and J Sherratt. Denise was the only Officer willing to stand as President, and this would be for 12 months only.
  - The Vice President ought to start to "learn the ropes" with a view to succeeding Denise in a year's time and Lilian Berry confirmed she was the new Head of Membership for the Federation and advised that Members do not have to be on the Committee to fulfil a particular role.

This concluded the AGM. Jean Sherratt proposed a vote of thanks to the President and the outgoing Committee for their hard work in 2019.
6. **Federation Update by L Berry**
  - a) Celia Cleobury would be absent for 2 weeks following an operation today. This left only Brenda in the office so Members were asked to keep their demands to a minimum.
  - b) Anne Timmins had stepped down from the role of Treasurer owing to very poor health.
  - c) Christine Chase had also developed breast cancer.
  - d) Karen Hanks would be Chair of the Federation for a further year
  - e) The Office had been redesigned with the removal of the shop – whose contents had moved into a glass display cabinet and a space for Members to have coffee had been introduced.
  - f) Linda Colton and Sally Parsons were training as WI advisors.
  - g) Rachel Edmondson would function as the Vice Treasurer / Head of Sales.
7. **Date of next meeting:** the December meeting would be held on 11 December 2019. This would be the Christmas Party, with entertainment by Sally Lister on "Sweets and Treats". Members would not need to bring a gift as these would be provided by the Committee. No raffle would be held. Savouries will be catered by Liz Clarke and puddings by the Committee.

As tonight's speaker had been unable to attend, Karen was asked to step into the breach once more and delivered a delightful talk about her horse and her role with "*Riding for the Disabled*". Karen was pleased to accept a £40 donation for this charity.