

(4) LADS Committee meeting Thursday 7th January 2021
(8pm on Zoom)

Present:

Jan Evans

Ron Gunstone

Steff Gerrard

Anna Lingard

Mark Lingard

Ian Phelps

Bex Smith

Alison Utting

Apologies:

Pam Johnson

Julia Thomas

Cynthia Hilton

Treasurers report:

Bex informed the meeting that there had 3 entries into the account Consisting of 3 peoples membership payments and a win of £10 from the 200 Club. Closing balance of account is £3,474.

Minutes from previous meeting:

Unanimously accepted.

Matters arising:

Laptop:

Bex informed the meeting that she had now sourced a suitable cable from Pam, although due to Covid lock-down she had been unable to collect it from her as yet.

Membership:

Due to only a few people having paid membership fees **Jan** is to send out another letter via Mail Chimp to all members, reminding them of new policy for this year only and instructions on how to pay fees.

Anna pointed out that a lot of members didn't seem to be on the present list. **Jan** was asked to forward the Mail Chimp list to **Mark** so he could check it. **Jan** and **Pam** were trying to get together to discuss Mail Chimp but lock-down has prevented them from doing so.

Storage agreement:

Bex and **Ron** have verbally agreed a peppercorn rent for use of storage on his property. An agreement has been drawn up and requires signatures from **Ann**, **Ron**, **Bex** and **Alison**. Copies to be retained by **Bex** and **Cynthia**.

Insurance – **Ron** is covered for any break ins as far as his property is concerned. **Bex** informed the meeting that LADS were covered up to £5,000 for our property. She suggested that this could be increased to up to £10,000. **Bex** and **Ali** would review this together as and when we make further planned purchases.

Cultural consortium:

Alison informed the meeting that at the moment this is on hold.

1) Grant applications:

Pam and **Ian** (with help from Scott Formstone) have put forward various grants available to us for the purchase of outdoor staging.

Scott has researched available staging and has given a suggested cost of £6,429.

Trailers approximately 8ft x 5ft cost at about £1,500 +vat or hire at £45 for 24hours.

Lighting can be difficult for us to buy as we don't really have expertise or an understanding of what we need.

Therefore, out of any grant money we receive we need to supply a budget for hiring outdoor lighting until we know for sure what we would like to purchase.

Alison reminded the meeting that LADS had previously planned on performing outdoor plays earlier in the day to reduce the need for lighting.

Lectern Pam has sourced a lectern that has multiple purposes and is completely adjustable for £2,000. She suggested we should use £1,500 from the Mary Hignett fund and supplement this with £500 from the LADS account.

The total amount needed to meet the above costs would be approximately £10,000.

£2,000 of which we have applied for from the People's Postcode Lottery.

Pam suggests we apply for £8,000 from the Arts Council grants in case we weren't accepted by the Post Code Lottery.

If we do apply to the Arts Council for a grant then we need to provide them with up-to-date accounts for 2020 and our Constitution, which will need updating.

The meeting agreed to go ahead with applying for the said grants and **Alison** will liaise with **Pam** to organise the writing of an up-to-date constitution to be later forwarded on to all members.

2) Child protection policy:

Julia sent a message to the meeting to say we do have a written policy. **Alison** will liaise with **Julia**, once things settle down after her move, to check the policy and make it public.

3) On-line Media:

Alison expressed a need for us to update our O.L.M. accounts, decide what we need to do about our accounts and get them up to speed.

Marg and **Pam** currently have mail forwarded from the LADS. We cannot forward to any other accounts because of spam prevention, so **Mark** will give log-in information to **Alison** and **Bex** so that they can at least use the account when needed.

Mail Chimp- **Pam** is still currently dealing with all Mailchimp mailings. **Alison** to be brave and give it a go! **Jan** to be trained as soon as it is possible. Recent problems have been to do with updated lists but should now be sorted.

Anna or **Mark** will video call with **Steff** and tutor her on social media releases.

4) December events:

Alison expressed her feelings on how well the panto readings went, along with her disappointment on **Shaun's** behalf that even though he wrote the pantomime he was unable to get online for the reading. The Christmas party was well attended with some interesting Christmas hats on show. It was suggested that a Zoom photo should be put on the website/Facebook and **Bex** reminded the committee that permission would be needed from individual participants.

The video productions were very good and **Anna** was congratulated on her superb editing.

5) January events:

Alison informed the Committee that **Pam** had procured five people to participate in video workshops.

January 12th – Loveday Ingram*

January 19th – Janice Wilks

January 26th – Laura Norma

February 2nd – Ian Bartholomew

February 9th – Michael Corbridge
and possibly a few more as well.

(*This was later changed to Feb 16th)

Pam is waiting for them all to confirm and provide a precis of what they plan to do.

Alison asked the Committee to decide how much advertising we need to do. We could either just advertise in-house or spread our net to approximately 350 people who have signed up for our news-letter.

Another option would be to go public and tell the world!

Bex pointed out that the numbers invited would really depend on the content of the workshop.

Mark pointed out that if we were to use Zoom then large numbers could be a problem.

It was decided that if there were limited numbers for a particular workshop, then LADS members should have priority.

Alison suggested she could consult with **Pam** to gauge how wide an advertising campaign we would need, according to each Speakers precis.

6) Village hall Committee meeting:

Disappointment was expressed that the V.H.C. had apparently not applied for a Shropshire Council grant of £10,000 for running costs during Covid that was readily available to them.

Alison to approach the V.H.C. to see if the 21st January meeting is still on. She will then offer up an agenda item that doesn't comment on the past but encouraged moving forward together.

Bex suggested that we could offer to collaborate in order to help with grant applications, by means of a sub-committee. **Mark** suggested that we should look forward with suggestions on what the hall required, then offer them suggestions of grant available to them.

Alison suggested a list to go on the agenda – Heating, chair trolley, stage curtains, toilet refurb and a water boiler for the kitchen.

The Committee agreed that **Alison** should write requesting these matters be added to the agenda.

6) Committee support for plays:

As **Cynthia** was unable to connect with Zoom tonight this item will be added to the next agenda.

7) A.O.B.

Jan asked if Tuesday night readings on Zoom were to recommence. **Alison** informed the meeting that the readings will be on hold for the moment due to the video workshops starting. However, should there be any

delay or a hiatus within the workshop videos then the play readings will take place.

Alison mentioned that the Village Newsletters were asking if we had any in-put to go in for February. She herself, felt it was important to let people know that we were still around. Suggestions for publication were our application for grants, info and photographs on play readings and Christmas party and that we are hoping to put a play on in the summer. **Pam** has kindly offered to do these press releases this time, but would appreciate someone else taking over the writing of them. She is happy to continue sending out.

8) Date of next meeting: Thursday February 25th on Zoom at 8pm.