

1. Welcomes

- JR: Thanked all for coming. It seems all subgroups are represented.

2. Apologies

Chris Bates

Craig Johnstone

3. Purpose of meeting

This is an opportunity for all sub groups to meet Fiona who is going take over from JR. Judith is very grateful and relieved to see youth to carry on! Already got Nic as Vice Chair. She and Fiona will take BUSCA to the next generation.

The meeting is intended to be a two way flow of info – questions, ideas, suggestions. Ideas for BUSCA and what you would like to see and what your group can do for BUSCA.

4. Judith's perspectives

History – JR involved from the beginning almost – 1971, conversations started re setting up a Community Association to get a community centre set up at Humphrey Perkin school. In Barrow there were lots of clubs and associations needing spaces All organisations came to a first meeting including JR. 1972 Comm Ass. Held its first meeting. Then became a reg. charity. Arranged community events to fundraise to build and furnish the comm centre and it ran very well for 30 years. It started to go pear- shaped with government legislation in he late 1990s. There is now no comm hub and BUSCA sadly had to give up on the plans to build one elsewhere.

JR became chair in 2000. JR feels she has done her bit.

JR – The sub groups actually do all the important activities of BUSCA. Subgroup members might not know why the charity needs the trustees. What relevance have the trustees to the subgroups? The answer is that the trustees ensure that the charity (ie BUSCA) complies with the requirements of the Charity Commission and the law. The trustees have to account to Charity Commission for all the financial transactions of the charity. Steven, Sally and Jim report to David who presents accounts to the C. Commission. If BUSCA failed to survive, the sub-groups might find themselves unable to access their own money.

The trustees have additional or related functions to make sure we comply with charity law; eg Annual reporting, membership, AGM, safeguarding etc. trustees see to all these things. BUSCA trustees also make sure the charity complies with the wider law. Less critical is the need for BUSCA to provide insurance – each group could do this themselves. In the past the Trustees have been very active in creating cohesion with the groups and publicising the whole face of BUSCA The subgroups are flourishing – thank you for that. BUSCA is worth protecting and growing for the future. JR has enjoyed her time. Thank you.

5. Fiona and Nic: Questions and views from sub groups: what do sub groups want from BUSCA; how can BUSCA move forward; what can BUSCA do better?

Library – Brian Tetley – Amazing facility – more community orientated than it ever was. Sadly it has become financially not viable to build an extension. New heating is in. Solar panels will go on roof shortly although we are struggling to get permission from Charnwood for solar panels. Library is successful at the moment including building up its own books as well as LCC books. But we do far more than just lend books. Library is available for the wider community not just members. You can pop in for a coffee and read the paper, attend talks, join craft sessions etc

Car park needs tarmac-ing.

Alan – BUSCA couldn't really do anything more to run the library. The support from volunteers has been fantastic. The library is unique – it has employees. Its own lease. Library runs up against obstacles with LCC and Charnwood. BUSCA will just need to carry on doing what it does.

Brian – we are unique. We have 50 volunteers and 10 committee members.

Library has lots of time when it's closed – times are available when it can be hired.

NN – FB hires of library.

Alan – LCC funding ends 31.03.22. We are on our own financially from now on.

David – BUSCA could support library financially if in dire need.

Abi – small rehearsals in the summer may need spaces.

BATS – Abi. Director of Youth Theatre and Panto group. Panto group formed in 1996 with the first show (Humpty Dumpty) in 1997. Panto directors set up Youth Theatre in 2003. Abi was later approached to take over. This YT will be Abi's 10th year. 8 successful YT shows. Grown and grown. Full productions cost more, but this is what people want. The stumbling block with Humphreys is now the £35 per hour to hire and £50 for Sundays.

In comparison with so many other Theatre groups we only charge £60 for a year's rehearsals. It gives all children the chance to do performing arts. We are worried that Humphreys costs are still going up. Fundraising is going on. Cake sales and donations. **BUSCA** – fundraising. Fiona hopes to make some progress in discussing how to work with Humphreys.

70 children auditioning for Legally Blonde including Humphries students.

The group is loved and supported by the community.

Children under 12 aren't able to do Legally Blonde. Under 12s can join BATS at the Jubilee performances at Party on the Park.

Abi would like to open a new musical group to catch the over 18s.

Lewis – is thinking of ceating a new website just for BATS. Ticket sales harder on BUSCA site. It could showcase what is coming up – auditions / past events etc to push sales. Merchandise – Tshirts etc... Selling merchandise at the Jubilee.

Parents get confused – re: paying through BUSCA rather than BATS.

Keith – use our hosting if you want to. Lewis could create a new BATS website using the existing (paid for) platform.

Steve – People need to pay by card. – SumUp. He will be looking to introduce this.

NN – arrange website meeting. Legalities.

NN – Meeting re: Sum up machine.

Abi – older members have asked if they can run small drama sessions - using Library facilities.

Helen – Murder Mystery. BUSCA supported the MM from the beginning. Big problem with HP school.

Barrow – boxing day handicap run, made Barrow special.

A building that the Barrow runners can run from.

MM needs a space other than HP school. She may try using BishBev Club in autumn. It is a struggle to find a space.

Fiona – having a meeting with HP school re: future. Email to be sent out to all when the meeting is due to receive everyone's thoughts.

Alan – HP school is the best venue in the village. Best efforts need to be made to use HP.

AW was closely involved in the building of the Comm hub. It may not have been cheaper in our own building.

Abi has put in a complaint to the Lionheart Trust re: conduct of caretaker at HP school.

Steve – importance of the under privileged children having a chance to be involved. The relationship with the community is poor.

Barrow Voice - Gaynor. We're hoping BV will be able to be less dependent on financial support from BUSCA. Advertisement manager role. Funding from adverts is vital. More coordination between BV and BUSCA. Named contact for each group, for copy. Named contact for editor to be contacted by. BV to promote BUSCA activities. Effective communication.

Kathryn – Heritage – a small group about 20 years old. Exhibitions in village. Good website which keeps up to date. Big grumble is the storage of heritage documents. Parish Council loft space is currently available.

But, that is not accessible. What is wanted is a **space** in the village for the material where it can be safely kept for future generations.

It seems a shame that there is no space for the community documents.

Keith?? - Digital storage has been created for the heritage documents.

WEBSITES – CMS. Can be available for all to update. Try to keep them up to date. Content needs to be provided. A website is no good if the content is out of date.

Keith – asked that all the subgroups update the BUSCA and Villag Websites when they use Social Media. Fresh content is needed all the time.

HELEN – Large map (in PC office). BUSCA made this.

Alan – Site for the building is the issue. All of BUSCA could be involved in finding a site.

Fiona – the quest for a space is still ongoing. It will go on but not at the expense of what we do. The PC will be put under pressure.

Judith – resident pressure is key.

TWINNING – Val: 1996 seems to have been the year! Twinning started. Charter signed. Events are planned – quizzes are successful in raising money. Open evening last Friday: 8 committee members. Unsuccessful. Another one will be planned for later in the year. Healthy in the finances.

Kathryn - fundraising this year was donated to Falcon centre.

Alan – suffering from the effects of the pandemic. A dozen on this year's trip. 25 usually go on the trip. 40 members. Hope for recovery as Covid wanes.

LIN – Membership. People who paid last year have not paid for this year. I haven't got an answer when members ask what I get as being a member.

Fi – what do we all think is the reason to be a member? –

Abi – Suggestion: To be a member of BATS you have to be a member of BUSCA.

If you were a BUSCA member, have a 10% off an event or show. Early booking/priority booking.

Steve – the reason is to allow us to do the things in Barrow. The events aren't free without having members.

Sarolta – who are the members?

Alan – if you are a member you can vote at the AGM. A CIO needs members.

Fi – membership is important for the future.

Lin – Gardening club, Barrow in Bloom (make affiliate members?) There are more groups in the village – could we get them to be more involved in BUSCA and the news.

Alan – There is enormous support for BUSCA in the village – the events are massively supported.

Sarolta – Didn't know that BUSCA had a membership.

6. Summing up

Fi - Thank you for sharing your views on where they are at and where they want to be. Please get in touch if you think of any extra ideas.

7. AOB

JR – BUSCA presence in the jubilee park party. 4th June. JR will provide a rota of people who man the stall. Lin has amazing ideas for a 50th celebration for later in the year.

NN – arrange 50th meeting with Lin.

Keith – Post Office van – 2 hours on a Thursday (21.04.22) 9.30 – 11.30.

Barrow Voice has a link for the petition.

8. Date of AGM

Wednesday 25th May 2022. **NN** – book Navi.