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| colarms-cityofbath | Bath Beppu Friendship Association  Executive Committee Meeting Notes  14th March 2018 18:00  Mayor’s Parlour, Guildhall, Bath | \\osiris\users$\martina1\My Pictures\Flag_of_Beppu,_Oita.png |

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| Attendees | Paul Crossley (PC)  Kaoru Jacques (KJ)  Yukie Scott (YS)  David James (DJ) | Jane Hands (JH)  Caroline Buxton (CB)  Alfred La Vardera (ALV) |  |
| Apologies | Michiyo Leather (ML) | Helen Akiyama (HA) | Tony McNicol (TM) |

**Meeting Minutes**

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|  | **Note** | **Action** | **Date** |
| 1 | **Welcome by the Chair** | PC |  |
| 2 | **Minutes of Last Meeting** | JH/PC |  |
| 3 | **Twinning Forum**  PC cannot attend meeting on 22/8 and needs a volunteer to cover. KJ/CB/DJ/JH are all likely to be available to cover.  It’s a good opportunity to shout about what BBFA does as we received currently only £200 from the Council annually compared to £1000 received by other twinning groups. | KJ/CB/DJ/JH |  |
| 4 | **Japan Festival/Sake Event: how to proceed in 2018**  Too late now to do Festival in May/June plus YS busy with personal commitments this year, cannot project lead. YS remarked that a significant amount of her Festival planning time had been spent applying for the grant from the Japan Society (£500) and dealing with Festival artists. We have £900 to put towards a 2018 event assuming we get the £500 grant again plus £400 leftover from last year’s Festival.  DJ confirmed no Visit Bath Great Bath Feast this autumn but no reason why Visit Bath can’t back another Sake event. PC to consider if he can project lead a joint Festival/Sake event in October – to conclude next meeting 26/4.  ALV recommended we request “donations” not payments for services provided – for tax reasons.  It was noted that the University of Bath MBA students/tutors plus our members have a Sake event planned at Widcombe Social Club 30/6 or 1/7. |  |  |
| 5 | **Possible 2018 Cherry Blossom Viewing Event?**  Tony McNicol and Mieko Zuckerman to decide if and when this should happen and to advertise accordingly. | TM/MZ |  |
| 6 | **Rugby Youth Tour to Beppu, Feb 2018**  Great success reported by KJ & PC. Good fundraising effort beforehand plus nearly £30k sponsorship – various companies and Daiwa Foundation (£10k of £30k acquired by BBFA). 4 good matches played, all of which Bath eventually won. Boys polite and represented Bath very well. They were exposed to quite a bit of Japanese culture too: Zazen meditation, temples, homestays…  Reunion planned for trip participants at Lambridge Rugby Club 11/5.  Bath feel they got lots from trip as do Beppu – with all the media interest, their profile has been raised and Japan Rugby Union pleased – Beppu should secure at least one “super team” to train there for World Cup. Japan side training there too.  PC would like to ideally see a 4 year cycle with Beppu Barbarians (best players across all Beppu schools) coming here in July/August 2020. |  |  |
| 7 | **Women’s Adventure Expo Event involving BBFA**  28/4 no longer possible now. Inside Japan no longer interested in supporting the event. CB to ask TJ to send us an update. | CB/TJ |  |
| 8 | **Tsutefude**  This is an art form of calligraphy or free-flowing Kanji.  Aoba-san would like to do some not-for-profit workshops in the UK to gauge interest/gain publicity and her possible arrival date is 10/5 for a week’s stay.  Looking at maybe a workshop 11/5 evening (KJ to check if Rugby Club is interested in combining it with their event on 11/5).  Plus maybe a daytime event on Saturday 12/5.  One of these events would be for BBFA members and friends.  Larkhall’s New Oriel Hall and Widcombe Social Club are possible venues. We need to know more about workshop duration and what’s involved.  ALV advised trying to make some profit. Indeed, it was noted that events are usually more popular if there is a small charge rather than being free.  Invite to BBFA members to be distributed once finalised. | KJ  HA  CB |  |
| 9 | **I.T. Update**  Kazuyuki Yamamoto has been skyping Masato as he and several other BBFA members will continue the Blog. Mari Nakayama has also been usefully contributing to it. So, the Blog is being maintained.  “BM to re-send info about Bath-Beppu connection to TM for website” – has this been done Tony?  KJ to pass Rugby info to TM for website | MZ  TM  KJ/TM |  |
| 10 | **Members’ Social Dinner 27.1.18**  Big success. Thanks to KJ for organizing. Forum Coffee House, Buffet style. DonDon Japanese caterer hugely enjoyed by everyone. £10 BBFA members, £15 non-members (subsidized by profit-making events). About 40 people came (70/30% members/non-members). £200 venue (covered by drinks people bought)  To be an annual January New Year event remembering to invite our various event sponsors to this dinner in future. |  |  |
| 11 | **AOB**  Financial: ALV to step down as Treasurer at next AGM as he can’t do this role as well as his other job. Will remain a BBFA member and will act as Auditor from next year. Yukie (events) and Sachiko (membership) to share Treasurer role. YS to act as Auditor this year only.  It was reported that £475 membership money has been received so far this year.  £2600 in the bank.  Emakimono: sadly WASPS school has dropped out of the Emakimono project this year.  Spa Conference in Beppu May 2018: PC and DJ representing Bath as they are prepared to pay their own fares. 10,000 expected to attend Conference with 15 nations speaking. Bath will have a stall so an opportunity to take goods out to sell.  PC reported that Beppu is looking to set up a similar organisiation to our BBFA.  Japanese Film Society: PC has approached Widcombe Social Club re having regular Japanese film showings (BRSLI only once/year). We talked about 4 or 6 per year being probably enough and perhaps combining this event with the Beppu Bar.  Beppu Bar: on the back burner – see how above Film nights go. To be removed from BBFA calendar.  Beppu’s Tourism Sudent Shunsuke Fukaike: KJ reported that he is to receive the same government backing as Masato and that Beppu is to facilitate his visit to Bath this year. Committee to agreed to formally assist his visit (he could help up with our website, Blog, etc.) Ideally looking for an internship with BTP.  Kimono Afternoon Tea: experimental event led by Yumiko. Not necessarily BBFA members. Afternoon Tea in Castle Combe dressed in kimonos Saturday 17/3.  YS reported that she and Yumiko are to do a Kimono demonstration in Birmingham this year.  Membership cards to be updated 2018/19. Also meishi style with contact details? | YS/ALV  JH  PC/DJ  PC  JH  DJ/KJ  ALV/KJ |  |
|  | **Next meeting**  **AGM** (open to whole membership) Thursday 26th April 2018, 6pm, Mayor’s Parlour with a social afterwards involving Shochu and Cakes to toast our friends in Beppu and Oita | JH |  |