|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| colarms-cityofbath | Bath Beppu Friendship Association  Annual General Meeting Notes  26th April 2018 18:00  Mayor’s Parlour, Guildhall, Bath | \\osiris\users$\martina1\My Pictures\Flag_of_Beppu,_Oita.png |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Attendees | Paul Crossley (PC)  Kaoru Jacques (KJ)  Yukie Scott (YS)  Helen Akiyama (HA)  Kazuhiro Takeuchi (KT)  Sachiko Barry (SB) | Jane Hands (JH)  Caroline Buxton (CB)  Alfred La Vardera (ALV)  Mari Nakayama  Ester Carrara  Susan Gaulter  Andrew Gaulter | Michiyo Leather (ML)  Mieko Zuckerman (MZ)  Tania Reynolds (TR)  Lauren Hudson  Kazuyuki Yamamoto |
| Apologies | Barry Macrae  Yumiko Jones | David James  Akiko Wakefield | Paula Malone |

**Meeting Minutes**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Note** | **Action** | **Date** |
| 1 | **Welcome by the Chair and attendee introductions** | PC |  |
| 2 | **Minutes of Last Meeting** | JH/PC |  |
| 3 | **Chairman’s Report/Review of 2017/2018**  See Report attached. Busy, successful year. The highlight, according to PC, was the Bath-Beppu Rugby event – a real once-in-a-lifetime experience for all involved. The only negative was the lack of Bath media coverage compared to the national coverage received in Japan. |  |  |
| 4 | **Secretary’s Report**  See Report attached. It was noted that TR has kindly set up a Twitter account (@BathBeppuFA) for us and is considering a YouTube channel.  Membership has grown in the past year. The suggestion was made to build on student membership next year.  PC reminded us of the need to abide by the new Data protection laws. E-mails to be sent out to the membership to get Yes/No reply about contacting them. 1st July is membership renewal. Maybe change the form to include a tick box? | CB/JH  CB |  |
| 5 | **Accounting Report**  ALV reported a year end surplus largely due to the Sake event tho the Japan Festival also successful. Much of profits were donated to chosen charity causes. ALV is retiring from the Treasurer role with YS and SB taking over. Unanimously, the Accounts were formally accepted by the Committee. |  |  |
| 6 | **Elections for next year’s Committee**  The following individuals were unanimously voted in to their respective Committee positions by the membership:  Paul Crossley as Chairman  Kaoru Jacques as Vice-Chair  Yukie Scott as Treasurer (to be assisted by SB)  Jane Hands and Caroline Buxton as Secretary (job share)  David Tanner as Committee Member  David James as Committee Member  Sachiko Barry (SB) as Committee Member  Michiyo Leather as Committee Member  Mieko Zuckerman as Committee Member  (Tony McNicol stepped down from the Committee for the forthcoming year though he will remain a BBFA member. We thank Tony for all his hard work over the last couple of years). |  |  |
| 7 | **Japan Festival/Sake Event October**  No news on potential joint event in October.  BBFA to support Bristol Japan Cultural Showcase on Sunday 24th June (Stoke Bishop village hall) and Saturday 13th October (Elmgrove Centre, Cotham) – see Facebook page. |  |  |
| 8 | **Cherry Blossom Viewing event**  This hasn’t happened this year due to a lack of trees now in Victoria Park and a lack of available organisers. The idea of an Obon picnic in the summer instead was quite well received. |  |  |
| 9 | **Women’s Adventure Expo Event involving BBFA**  A talk followed by an Asian buffet, on the evening of Friday, May 11th from 7pm, at Bonghy-Bo cafe-bar, (near Waitrose), in the centre of Bath. Climber, Jo Bradshaw, (who has climbed Everest) will give a talk on Junko Tabei, who was the first woman to summit Everest. To find out more, go to Tania's event webpage:  <https://womensadventureexpo.co.uk/the-story-of-women-junkotabei/>  Tania is offering a 10% discount on the £27 ticket price for BBFA members. Go to the webpage, click on Buy Tickets, select the number of tickets, click Next, add the code at the checkout and click Apply for a 10% discount.  TR stressed tickets must be bought in advance for numbers. It was hoped the BBFA banner might be displayed at the event to increase awareness. | TR  KJ/TR |  |
| 10 | **Tsutefude**  Saturday 12/5, 10-12. Tickets on Eventbrite. Code BBFA1205 gives £8 discounted price for BBFA members. Maximum 20 attendees including children over 8. HA requested help to clear away after event. | HA |  |
| 11 | **Japanese Film Society progress**  PC still looking into this. Widcombe Social Club not set up for such an activity yet. Maybe the Little Theatre or other venues. | PC |  |
| 12 | **Sake Event organized by Bath Uni MBA**  Saturday 30th June, 2-4pm. Widcombe Social Club. Takeuchi-san is leading this project and handed out a leaflet detailing the progress made. Should be a great event. | KT |  |
| 13 | **Nishinoseki’s** Kayashima-san has suggested he come to Bath in the autumn for a BBFA members’ drinking party with DonDon caterer. Possibly Widcombe Social Club 6/10. | KJ |  |
|  | **AOB**  Emakimono: sadly WASPS school has dropped out of the Emakimono project this year. ML is looking for a school to replace WASPS.  Bath Twinning: PC reported that BBFA is rapidly moving in line with the other Bath twinning orgs. We have an article appearing in the next edition of Connections newsletter and in the Twin Cities leaflet.  Owls: the other Bath twinning orgs have proposed all sharing the cost of a big owl, £500 each. It was put to a membership vote and BBFA voted not to participate this time.  Membership Discount: TM offered a BBFA discount for his Photo Tour company: 10% off for a booking of 2 or more people. To be put on the website.  Secret Izakaya: CB reported that David of the Secret Izakaya supper club is interested in joining BBFA. He’s a keen cook, specializing in Japanese. See Facebook page.  Kimono Event: PC congratulated YS on her participation in the very successful, recent Art of Kimono event.  Japan Society: PC to contact for Mieko-san. | ML  TM/JH  PC |  |
|  | **Next meeting**  Monday 21st May 2018, 6pm, Mayor’s Parlour. Committee only. | JH |  |