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| colarms-cityofbath | Bath Beppu Friendship Association  Annual General Meeting Notes  9th May 2019 18:00  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)  Jane Hands (JH)  Caroline Buxton (CB) | Mieko Zuckerman (MZ)  Matthew Zuckerman  Mamiko Flockhart-Prosser  Paul Bradley-Cong |  |
| Apologies | Michiyo Leather (ML)  David Tanner (DT) |  |  |

**Meeting Minutes**

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|  | **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 2018/2019**  Quieter year after extremely busy previous two years but still very active strengthening school/university links, a sake event, hosting a Japanese school choir and a visit by the Ambassador. BBFA is the most active of Bath’s various twinning associations and PC has applied for full grant of £1000 this year instead of the previously received figure of £500.  PC to write back to Beppu requesting dates re next youth rugby get-together. | PC  PC |  |
| 4 | **Secretary’s Report**  See Report attached.  Membership has plateaued over the past year. |  |  |
| 5 | **Accounting Report**  The accounts were audited by Alfred and Yukie would like to express her gratitude for his support.  Income and expenditure less that previous two years as we were less active but it was noted that BBFA was able to use its resources to help other groups in the area, eg. Bristol Japan Days.  £3000 reserve in BBFA account.  It was noted that the £500 twinning grant supposedly received last year is not showing in the BBFA account. PC to establish when it was paid so YS can double-check the accounts. | PC/YS |  |
| 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  Jane Hands and Caroline Buxton as Secretary (job share)  Michiyo Leather as Committee Member  Mieko Zuckerman as Committee Member  Matthew Zuckerman as Committee Member  (Sachiko Barry and David Tanner stepped down from the Committee for the forthcoming year. We thank them both for all their hard work over the last year). |  |  |
| 7 | **Shin’ai Girls Choir Visit 26-29 March 2019**  Big success. Hosting with local families went well and so many compliments were received re singing performance quality at St. Michael’s Church and at Hayesfield School. Just a shame that audiences weren’t bigger. Historically, the choir have visited Bath every 3 years but the next visit is in question as the teacher in charge might retire.  Bill for use of church to be chased. | PC |  |
| 8 | **David Tanner Talks about Japan**  PC to check if DT is still keen to make these happen as the process has been more complex than expected. | PC |  |
| 9 | **Meishi Cards for BBFA Committee Members?**  It was questioned whether really necessary for all committee members to have these. OK to use individual, private business cards and/or direct people to the BBFA website and Facebook page. |  |  |
| 10 | **Sumie Class Update**  CB to follow up with DT. | CB |  |
| 11 | **Grant Application Update**  See point 3 earlier. |  |  |
| 12 | **Sake Event 24/5**  Venue is BRSLI. 57 of 60 tickets sold at the time of the meeting. Sake plus nibbles. Mr. Kayashima to bring Sake Master along too this time. Japanese group to arrive in Bath 24/5, spend 25/5 with Kaoru and Paul (visiting Thatcher’s Cider and local brewery) then 26/5 back to London.  KJ to see if it is appropriate to invite Glastonbury-related contacts. | KJ |  |
| 13 | **Mini Japan Day at MEAA**  Objective is to raise funds for flood affected parts of South Japan plus community cultural event.  Tanabata Festival 12-4.30pm on 7th July. Tea ceremony, origami, decorate bamboo tree with wishes in traditional way, dress up in summer Yukata, display Emakimono. Maybe calligraphy.  See if Hayesfield happy to share action shots of girls doing Emakimono artwork.  Ideally food tasting. Wagamama’s to be approached (JH) and Comins too (YS)  Japanese Embassy will register this as an official event and put it on their website. But funded by BBFA/donations from public. | YS  JH  JH/YS |  |
| 14 | **Piano Concert Opportunity**  Kaoru suggested that it might be a good idea to tap into skills BBFA members can offer. Kaoru’s friend and BBFA member, Ms. Ikuko Inoguchi, is a Reading-basedconcert pianist and hasoffered to do a concert in Bath. Maybe link it to next Sake event to make it more cultural. St. Michael’s was suggested as a great venue and apparently Chapel Arts Centre has a great piano and sound. Something to think about… | KJ |  |
| 15 | **Events in 2019/2020**  Another **New Year’s dinner** for members in January.  Think about an event maybe for June/July?  It would be nice to be able to offer BBFA members the opportunity to visit the **Japanese Embassy** in London. Perhaps put our name down to display an Emakimono and, in so doing, get an invite to go and have a look round.  AGM attendee, **Paul Bradley-Cong**, told us that he was going to Beppu as a writer in residency and that **Bath Artist Studios** might be interested in a direct **exhibition** swap with Beppu/Japan.  PC suggested it would be brilliant to get the Welsh **Taiko** Drumming group back next year, to maybe perform in the Abbey Courtyard. |  |  |
| 16 | **Emakimono Leaflet**  These leaflets would be great for promoting the Emakimono project (one side) and the BBFA (on the other side, to include event info.).  Matthew has obtained a quote from Minuteman: £326 for 200 or £378 for 400.  PC declared a personal interest in that he’s a friend of Minuteman owner Dave Dixon.  PC proposes to pursue the project, going for qty of 400 at A6 size, and to discuss further at the next meeting when ML is back from Japan.  Content would likely be mostly English with a bit of Japanese. CB to help with drafting text. | Matthew  CB |  |
|  | **AOB**  Due to changes in Guildhall security arrangements, we can’t guarantee evening **meetings** at the Mayor’s Parlour anymore. Lunchtime meetings to be trialed at Mayor’s Parlour and some evening meetings at Comins (Matthew confirmed they were happy to stay open late occasionally to host).  All future meetings to be general meetings open to members.  It was reported that a **Beppu student** has started studying at Leeds. She was influenced by the rugby tour visit and wouldn’t have considered studying in Leeds otherwise. A nice link that has developed due to BBFA activity.  **Kazu/Lauren**: CB reported that Lauren is back in Japan teaching at a prestigious Tokyo high school. Kazu is to join her soon. They both said how much they enjoyed their BBFA interactions. |  |  |
|  | **Next meeting**  Thursday 20th June 2019, 12pm, Mayor’s Parlour. |  |  |