

**Land of Joy Buddhist Centre Trustees Meeting 24<sup>th</sup> January 2021. This synopsis of the minutes covers the main items discussed, while excluding anything of a personal & confidential nature.**

Charlotte welcomed everyone. Cherry led the motivation. The November minutes were approved.

**Director's Report:** Resumption of personal, onsite and hybrid retreats is dependent on the easing of government easing of COVID restrictions. The 2021 programme is full & varied, meeting all levels of development & interest. Some retreats scheduled as onsite will go online & some longer retreats maybe be shortened. There are plans to hold Wednesday meditations online, this will also be advertised in the local Tasset paper. The website is continuing to be updated, it is comprehensive & easy to navigate. The library is being renovated & the front gardens maintained.

**Retreat Programme:** The retreat huts are fully booked from May. The Team regularly reviews the logistics of onsite / hybrid retreats & availability of single rooms. Currently there is room for 6, potentially 8, retreatants. Only a few definite registrations for the 2021 online programme, but experience shows that registrations will increase closer to the start. There is an abundance of online retreats available from many teachers in all parts of the world. Feedback shows that not all attendees follow the retreat schedule, so changing to courses starting later in the day is a creative attempt to accommodate those working at home

**Finance:** LoJ is in receipt of government grants provided to business affected by COVID regulations. The contingency fund is sufficient to cover us for 2021. It was agreed to take the Charities Commission advice to prepare a policy for investment. It is an opportunity to research ethical investments. The Board agreed to move an account from Lloyds Bank to NationWide. Options regarding how to increase short term & long-term volunteer donations / sponsorships were discussed, following on from the Strategy Discussion the previous day.

**Fundraising:** The 3<sup>rd</sup> retreat hut has been ordered to arrive in the summer. There will be a push for the remaining £8000 required. Linen has been donated & a wish list for small items will be created. Branches of Joy donations have almost met the target of covering half the monthly operating costs. The next target is 70% to be met by 2022. We have 5 new members since September 2020. Fundraising continues for the Kalarupa statue.

**Phara Khenchen Tulku Rinpoche:** has been living at LoJ since November 2020. Jenny reported he is enjoying being part of the Team but would like to return to his Monastery, which he will do once restrictions are lifted. He has been granted Tier 5 sponsorship valid until mid-June. LoJ is continuing to sponsor Tulku-las's food & accommodation.

**Volunteer Staff:** Jenny reported that key volunteer positions will be advertised shortly. The Team are continuing to work steadily and harmoniously together.

**Safeguarding.** Shan was thanked for putting together the '*Trauma Informed*' information pack.

**Administration:** Dan Cutts has updated the Risk Register it was adopted by the Board.

**Board Renewal:** Kerrigan Bell stepped down & was warmly thanked for her service over the past two years. Carole Sleight was welcomed onto the Board. There is a wish to increase the Board by a further 2 members.

**AOB:** The Board agreed to include Equality Diversity & Inclusion as a permanent standing agenda item. The onsite Team and the Board attended a zoom Antiracist Training presented by Wendy Ridley as part of the AGM weekend.

**Date of the next meeting:** April 19<sup>th</sup> 2021

**Dedication** - Charlotte