

Land of Joy Buddhist Centre Trustees Meeting 23rd April 2020 - Synopsis of Minutes

This synopsis attempts to cover all the main items that were discussed, while excluding anything of a personal and confidential nature.

The meeting began with a motivation by Cherry & approval of the minutes from the January meeting.

Director's Report Jenny & the team were thanked for their ongoing hard work, flexibility & dedication in providing an online Dharma programme within the constraints of the lockdown.

Retreat Programme Recordings of selected previous courses and meditations are currently available. More will be released as the online programmes are developed, in conjunction with retreat leaders, to provide for all student levels. LoJ's income has declined with the loss of retreats therefore, participants in any online personal retreat packages will be asked for upfront donations, in keeping with the generosity model.

Finance Despite the current income constraints brought about through the lockdown it was agreed that the big jobs to keep the house in good order should continue, as previously agreed. Although there is an estimated projected loss of income £8000 by August, increasing by £12000 should the Centre remain closed to the end of 2020, LoJ has sufficient contingency funds to continue for this period. There will be a review of contingency plans in June/July.

Fundraising A campaign to raise funds to pay for necessary repairs caused by dry rot is being considered.

A web page for the ongoing tree planting project will be launched in May to sponsor clear-fell trees. Discussions to work with GTI (Global Tree Initiative) are in progress. The trees will be dedicated to HHDL.

A new membership drive to be initiated. Existing members will be thanked for their generosity and provided with a timely update of LoJ, together with a campaign to increase the membership.

A lack of plumbing supplies is holding up the completion of the second retreat hut. Donations for the third hut are trickling in.

Volunteer staff There is currently a full complement of volunteers who are diligently working through outstanding tasks, some of whom are expected to leave once lockdown restrictions ease. Advertising will re-commence for SPC, centre manager, house keeper and general volunteers as travel restrictions ease.

Safeguarding The current policy has been reviewed and is up to date. Training for Volunteers/Trustees will continue in the future after the FPMT Inc review with safeguarding experts Thirtyone:Eight.

New board members Dan Cutts has been appointed as treasurer. We offer grateful thanks to Dan for his acceptance of the position & to Bob Charlton for his many years of dedicated service.

Administrative Items GDPR Compliance is under review & any necessary amendments will be made. Contingency Planning for the positions of the Chair & Director were discussed and clarified. The Charity Commission has been updated, Trustees Insurance has been purchased, access to webfililng will be updated and Dan will update the Risk Register.

The date of the next meeting will be scheduled for July by Doodle.