

Land of Joy Buddhist Centre Trustees Meeting, 13th October 2021.

This synopsis of the minutes covers the main items discussed, while excluding anything of a personal & confidential nature.

Welcome: Charlotte opened the meeting & welcomed Adam Bowley, our successful candidate for the Board, who sat in as an observer.

COVID-19: The LoJ onsite team has requested that all guests and new volunteers to the centre are fully vaccinated, to offer the most protection to the largest group of people visiting or staying at the centre. The current protocols will continue to be kept under review and will be discussed at every board meeting. Some LoJ supporters have expressed disappointment about the need to be fully vaccinated before visiting, Jenny has been in touch with them. LoJ is implementing similar measures to Jamyang London & other residential retreat centres in the UK.

Retreat Programme: The only onsite group retreat this year is scheduled for November 5th - 7th. All 3 retreat huts are fully booked until May 2022. Donations have averaged £27 per night from the end of April 2021 to the end of September 2021. Thought was given to how to assist sangha to cover their personal retreat expenses at LoJ.

Ray & Fay are helping with the online retreat workload. Registrations & donations continue to be low.

Financial: The monthly & quarterly reports show that finances are stable. It has been a strong year financially, despite COVID-19 restrictions. Dan thanked Jenny for her good management of the accounts. Jenny flagged that the rising price of food & electricity will affect 2022 running costs.

Fundraising: A campaign is focussing on increasing the Branches of Joy membership. We have welcomed several more members since July. Additional fundraising campaigns have been earmarked for 2022.

Volunteers: The Centre director, SPC, general manager & woodlands manager positions are advertised in all FPMT forums. Charlotte advised the need for contingency planning for all vacant & upcoming vacant posts in the next few months, especially that of director. There are 2 applications for the GM & some interest in the woodlands manager position. Lou Beaumont is the current bookings manager working remotely from Spain.

Tulku-la: Jenny said Tulku-la is a joyful presence at LoJ, volunteering & taking responsibility for setting up pujas & practices. Tulku-la's UK visa expires in September 2022.

Safeguarding: Charlotte thanked Shan & Carole for their work. The board agreed the following policies for adoption: Safe Recruitment, Confidentiality, Mental Health, Self-declaration Disclosure, LoJ Disclaimer & Grievance Procedure.

Equality Diversity & Inclusion: The MAWS (Me & White Supremacy) Book Circle, facilitated by Wendy Ridley has finished. Members commented on how valuable it has been.

Carbon Neutral/ Net Zero: The board showed interest in reducing LoJ's carbon footprint. Please put anyone who will be able to do this for free in touch with Charlotte.

Date of the next meeting: AGM Friday 21st – Sunday 23rd January at Land of Joy

Carole led the dedication