



Bradford on Avon Lions Club

Newsletter

Volume 52, Number 6 – December 2024

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President's Remarks

Presidents Thoughts December 2024

Dear Members and Friends,

The event that has had most impact on our town, not just in the last fortnight, but in the last few years, was of course Storm Bert. The steep roads down into Bradford became rivers and the resulting floods devastated the properties adjacent to the Avon. Could the Lions do anything to help in any way? It wasn't really feasible to get involved in the mammoth task of helping with the clearing and cleaning in the aftermath, so the Community Services group, under Lynn's guidance, have put together a "gift package" that can be given to each of those affected, containing such things as a Christmas cake, wine, chocolates etc. as a morale booster and to let them know the Lions are thinking of them. We know of 50 premises that have been affected and we are aiming to get these gifts delivered by December 20th. We also had a very supportive message from Paula Thorpe our Zone Chair, offering help from the zone members if we thought it appropriate. I thanked her and told her I would keep her informed if any help was required.

Another consequence of the floods was the cancellation of the "Christmas lights switch on". Very disappointing, but our Christmas tree is now in place in Westbury Gardens and Phil has put the banner around the base reminding everyone this is the Lion's Christmas gift to Bradford on Avon. As usual the tree looks wonderful, and we will be leading the annual Carols Round the Tree at 6.00pm on 24th December. On the subject of Christmas trees, the Christmas tree festival in Trinity Church is imminent, and once again thanks to Lynn and Janie for their work on our behalf preparing the Lion's tree. It should look particularly spectacular this year as I am told photographs of us all are going to enhance its final appearance.

Last week I signed 65 Christmas cards to accompany the Christmas plants and vouchers we are giving to elderly people who live alone. Once again thanks to Lynn for organising their distribution and thanks to all of you for volunteering to make the deliveries! At the same time, the Santa float is doing the rounds and at the time of writing, the amounts in the collection buckets have already exceeded last years, so here's hoping that continues over the remaining nights. The Santa float is always something to look forward to by ourselves and the community and as you know makes a valuable contribution to our coffers. An enormous amount of planning and organisation goes into this event and many thanks go to Phil and his team for all the work and effort they put into it.

Monday sees the O.Y.P.A. when the young people will receive their awards. We have up to 16 guests to welcome that evening and thanks to Janie for organising the winners plaques and to Hilary for the nibbles and refreshments.

The Christmas lunch on December 18th will be a welcome break from all the hectic activities associated with this time of the year so thank you Hilary for organising what I know will be a very enjoyable occasion.

I send my good wishes to you all for a happy and peaceful Christmas. Mike.

MESSAGES

Raffle prize for December Meeting – Mike, please

Message from Bob Farrimond.

Dear Friends,

Bob and Maree wish everyone a peaceful and really happy Christmas time and a truly wonderful New Year. Cheers!!!

AGENDA

Introduction of Guests – Lion Phil

Present

Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 18th November

For Action or Decision: Trustees
Treasurer
Community Services
Fun Day
Fund Raising
Social

PR/Marketing

Correspondence

Any Other Relevant Business

MINUTES

1. Minutes of a meeting of the Lions Club of Bradford on Avon, held on 18th November 2024 at Holt Village Hall.

2. Attendance. There were 12 members present with Mark on Zoom.

3. Apologies. Lions Betty, John, Janie and Pete.

4. Guests. None.

5. Approval of Minutes of meeting held on 21st October 2024. Approved.

a) Lion President Mike told the meeting how pleased he was to be back after his illness. He also thanked the members for the good wishes sent to him for a speedy recovery.

6. Matters Arising from previous meeting

a) 6 – 7k, Plaque for bench, still ongoing waiting for news from Town Council **Action Phil.**

a1) Missing bench on Victory Field. Waiting for news from the Town Council.

a2) It was decided that the donations from Rita Tappenden and Jean Elliott should be added together and a bench purchased, to be sited on the canal towpath. **Action Phil.**

c) CCC&C, Young Musicians see Community Services report.

d) Treasurer, Poulton Park Development see Community Services report.

e) Winsley School, see Community Services report.

f) Wiltshire Young Musicians, Pick & Play project, see Community Services report.

g) 9a - Fun Day, Extra attractions, see Fun Day report.

h) 9b – Fun Day, Ice cream concession, see Fun Day report.

i) 11d – Nibbles at December, see Social report.

j) 14d – Sound quality on float, it was decided to leave as it is. Complete.

7. Trustees

- a) 5b – Possible new member, still ongoing, **Action Mike.**
- b) Phil reported that possible new member Peter Brown had confirmed that due to the high subscription cost, he would not be joining the Lions.

8. Treasurer

- a) Admin account £1425.12, charitable account £11647.51.
- b) Phil warned the members to be aware about scam emails asking for money.
- c) Phil said he would try to find out the cost of the Christmas tree for Westbury Gardens. **Action Phil.**

9. Community Services

- a) Lynn asked who has the Hi Viz tabards. **Action Lynn to contact Richard Bloom.**
- b) Carols Round the Tree,
 - b1) Bob advised that a check should be made on Christmas Eve afternoon that the electrical power is switched on at the socket in Westbury Gardens. **Action Lynn.**
 - b2) Information of the event to be sent to Snippets. **Action Keith.**
 - b3) It was decided that we do not need to print any more carol sheets.
 - b4) Phil said he would contact a man who can improve the sound quality. **Action Phil.**
 - b5) A gazebo will be needed to protect Kate and the keyboard from getting wet. **Action Lynn.**
 - b6) Phil agreed to liaise with Liz to advertise the carols event. **Action Phil and Liz.**
- c) Poulton Park development, £1000 donation for this project has yet to be paid. Ongoing, **Action Lynn and Mark.**
- d) Winsley School Sheds, £1000 pledged, now awaiting confirmation that the school has raised the rest of the money before payment is made. **Action Lynn.**
- e) Unpaid Carers of Wiltshire, payment will be made in December, complete.
- f) CCC&C 2025, Wilts Young Musicians have shown an interest in taking part. **Action Mike to keep in touch.**
- g) Wiltshire Young Musicians Pick and Play project, ongoing. **Action Mike.**
- h) Young Persons Award, presentation at December meeting.
- i) Request from a single Mum for help rejected as she lives in Bath. It was suggested that she contact Bath Round Table for help. **Action Lynn to reply.**
- j) The Christmas tree for Westbury Gardens has been paid for.
- k) Holy Trinity Christmas Tree Festival, our tree is in the garage. **Action Lynn to collect.**

10. Fun Day

- a) Extra Fun Day attractions still to be discussed. **Action Keith, Mark & Phil.**
- b) It was decided that the ice cream concession should stay with Chipperfield's.
- c) Judith put forward an idea to hold some sort of attraction like a static cycle marathon raising money to hit a set goal on the day. **Action Keith to consider.**
- d) Brian suggested that advertising for the Car Boot sale should begin in January. **Action Keith & Phil.**
- e) Brian will form his own team for the Car Boot field.
- f) Brian will organise a Bric a Brac table for the car boot field.

11. Fund Raising

- a) Phil confirmed that he had purchased 8 new collecting buckets.

12. Social

- a) Christmas lunch, Wednesday 18th December at Cumberwell.
- c) The next Coffee Morning will be on Friday 22nd November at Timbrells Yard.
- d) Because of the YPA presentation evening, nibbles will be needed at the December meeting. **Action Social Committee.**

13. Correspondence

- a) The secretary has forwarded on all relevant correspondence by email.
- b) Lion President Mike had received a letter from Jean Elliott regarding the donation from Tony's funeral.

14. Any other business

- a) **PLEASE NOTE THAT THE DECEMBER MEETING WILL START AT 7-00PM.**

15. Raffle.

- a) The raffle was won by Brian.
- b) **Raffle prize for January meeting Keith please.**

Lion President Mike closed the meeting at 8-30pm.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Report at 6th December 2024

The balance on the Admin account is £1818.12

We are due to pay our bi-annual dues shortly to the Lions HQ etc.

The balance on the Charity and Activity account is 10,013.84

Outgoings

We paid out

£700.00 to BoA council as contribution to the Christmas Tree

£620.00 for Sainsburys vouchers

£150 for the Hyacinth baskets

Incomings

We raised over £400 on day 1 of the Santa float. This will be banked along with the other monies mid December.

COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

Community Services Meeting 27/11/24 2pm

Present: Lynn Bob Mike Ken - Apologies: John and Janie.

1. Poulton Park - £1,000 paid to Town Council.
2. Winsley School - ongoing - Shed has been ordered. Lions to settle their donation in the new year.
3. Unpaid carers - £200 to be paid 10th December - **Action Lynn/Mark**
4. Wiltshire Young Musicians to enable playing of instruments, learning rhythms and singing together in small groups - £1,000 suggested - to be ratified at main club meeting. **Action: Mike**

5. Hub - £200 paid - Mike to get a photograph of Cathy with vouchers/food bought - if required
- **Action: Mike. Action: Lynn** to contact Cathy to see what date can be arranged.

6. Fiona Baxter - mother of autistic child - referred her to Rotary B on Avon - awaiting response
- They have declined her request.

7. Xmas tree - £700 paid and now in the park on display. Xmas Lights switch on - cancelled due to flooding.

8. Carols around the tree - Xmas Eve - all sorted and with new buckets. Kelvin the manager St. Margarets Hall - will be there 5.30pm to help set up with electricity etc. Email Kelvin to check.
Action: Lynn

9. Xmas Tree Festival Holy Trinity Church - collect key for garage for Xmas tree and decorations. Brian/Phil/Richard have keys. Brian is nearest so will collect from him ready for Monday 9th Dec. Bob to help Lynn/Janie 3.35pm with tree set up. **Action: Lynn**

10. Paula Thorpe Zone Chair has emailed Mike requesting us to contact them if they can help or support with local flooding in Bradford on Avon.

11. Plants/Vouchers List amended - we will be asking people to deliver a few more this year. Total 61 people to be visited.

12. Collect plants and vouchers from Lynn 16 Avonfield Avenue B on Avon on Thursday December 12th 10-4pm. If needed to collect sooner or later then please email Lynn to arrange a time/day to suit. **Action: Lynn** to email all helpers.

13. Liz/Ken brought to our attention how we might support local businesses and retirement residents who live in the town and along Church Street who were all flooded or needing to be relocated for a short while. Ken and the CS team discussed this at length and as we weren't there to help clean up we have considered a Christmas gift/goody bag of Wine, Xmas Cake, Mince Pies, Chocs and Biscuits for each business/resident that has been affected. Cost approximately £25-30 per gift bag. In all it's up to 30 but could be a few more homes/businesses that have been affected. We thought we can't wait to get an executive decision from the main committee but felt this was important and needed to be done promptly showing our good will in the town. We aim to have the bags sorted and delivered by 20th December. If businesses were closed they could collect from the HUB during their opening hours of 10-1pm daily. Action: Lynn to ask Cathy/CS team to help with delivering. Also George from the Town Council Office - she has offered to deliver some too. (To date 50 businesses have been affected).

14. Christchurch Pond - Mike to visit in the new year and maybe even get another lunch thrown in! -: **Action Mike**

15. Date of Next Meeting – Wednesday 15th January at 2.00pm at 16 Avonfield Avenue BA15 1JE
Meeting Ended 3.15pm.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Social Report for December 2024

Just a reminder about our Christmas Lunch on Wednesday 18th December. Thank you for all your menu choices and we look forward to seeing you in the Wraxall Bar at Cumberwell at 1pm to eat at 1.30. There will be 25 of us altogether – a lunchtime event seems to have proved popular!

Bradford on Avon Lions Club Charities Account 2024/25

Payments from 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025

<u>Date</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Recipient</u>
7/24	£840.00	Bradford on Avon Air Cadets
10/24	£234.90	Cameras for St Laurence School
10/24	£60.69	EPI Pens
11/24	£200.00	Youth Adventure Trustees
11/24	£200.00	The Hub
11/24	£100.00	Courage Choirs
11/24	£250.00	Anaphylaxis UK
11/24	£100.00	British Legion
12/24	£700.00	Town Council for Christmas Tree
12/24	£620.00	Christmas Vouchers
12/24	£150.00	Christmas Plants-
<u>Total</u>	<u>£3455.59</u>	

Club Diary December 2024 & January 2025

December	18	Christmas Lunch	1300hrs	Cumberwell
	21	Club Meeting	1930hrs	Holt
	24	Carols Round Tree	17.30hrs	Westbury Gdns
January	8	Trustees Meeting	1400hrs	Keith's
	15	Comm Serv Meeting	1400hrs	Lynn's
	20	Club Meeting	1930hrs	Holt

Dates to Remember

Magazine Deadlines

Could you please ensure that all information for the monthly Newsletter reaches Judith by the next deadline: **Monday 13th January**