Bedfordshire Advice Forum

Promoting and supporting advice and information services in Bedfordshire

Present:

Martin Trinder Sylvia MacDowell Elliott Stephenson Len Simkins Amanda Ryan Karen Lister Kash Karimzandi Samantha Condor Sarah Broughton Gill Reeves Brian Cunningham Chera Gilbert

Apologies

Trevor Moisey Noor D'Agostino Paulette Rennie CVS Beds Money Advice at St Andrews Grand Union Housing Group Autism Bedfordshire BPHA Salvation Army Citizens Advice Leighton Buzzard Macmillan Welfare Rights Bedford Foodbank BRCC BRASS Disability Resource Centre

Three Rivers Church, Bedford Catalyst Housing Association Bedford Community Support Project

Action

Elliott Stephenson chaired the meeting on behalf of BAF's Steering Group.

3. Minutes of last AGM and Matters Arising

The minutes of the last AGM (4th July 2019) were accepted.

There were no matters arising.

4. BAF Annual Report and Finance Report for 2019/20

The Annual Report and Finance Report was circulated, discussed and accepted. A copy of the report can be found on the BAF website.

There was some concern about the further fall in the number of BAF members last year. This will be reviewed by BAF's Steering Group.

BAF made a loss last year mainly due to the reduction in membership fees and a reduction in management fees from projects. However, BAF's financial position is still secure for 2020/21.

5. BAF Membership Fees for 2020/21

The Steering Group proposed to keep the membership fees at the same rate:

- £35 standard rate
- £60 higher rate for organisations with over 100 staff
- £10 lower rate for organisations with only volunteers and individuals

Minutes of AGM

11th June 2020 Bunyan Meeting, Bedford

This was unanimously agreed.

6. **BAF Elections**

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Following discussions and volunteers coming forward, the following were elected unanimously:

Chair

- Amanda Ryan
- Steering Group Member •
- Brian Cunningham Steering Group Member Elliott Stephenson
- Steering Group Member
 - Paulette Rennie Steering Group Member
 - Treasurer
- Chera Gilbert Martin Trinder

The Central Bedfordshire Advice Strategy Management Group representatives will be elected at the next BAF meeting.

7. Any other business

None

Documents discussed at this meeting can be found at www.bedsadviceforum.org.uk