

Egerton Christmas Fair 7th December 2019

Meeting held on 11 October 2019 at The Barrow House

Present: Graham Howland, Hazel Harper, Andy Harper, Sabine Chapman

Apologies: Heather James

1. Discussion of whether Fair should be held this year. Decision made to run the Fair again this year because if it didn't run, it may never be organised again, which would be a shame as it is a popular event. We also felt that the village needs some more dynamic events. Agreed that the Fair should be held on 7th December at the slightly later time of 3pm-5.30pm
2. Discussion of where to hold the Fair. GH suggested the Glebe has become too small for the Fair, as the oak has grown. It is becoming more and more difficult each year to fit the marquees in the space. All agreed that the Fair will be held in and around the Village Hall this year.
HH to check if Village Hall can be booked for weekend of 7/8th December
3. Discussion about how to make the Hall more festive. Decision made to include huts again this year, but to keep them outside the Hall, and to focus on food and entertainment in the Hall, with the Christmas Tree and plenty of seating to keep people at the event. Further tables for stall holders to be placed in a marquee on the patio. Plan to make the Hall and Huts/Marquee as festive as possible, with lots of strings of lights and foliage. Plan to do the final clear up of the event on Sunday morning, rather than doing it all in one day (GH not available on Sunday).
GH to check if he can borrow Apple Farm's tractor and trailer for set up.
HH to ask Priscilla Harper to help decorate the Hall.
4. Tractor Ride to be planned as usual, but without a Father Christmas on the tractor as there will be one in the Grotto. Plan to have singing/instruments on the ride. GH has insurance to drive the tractor for events.
GH to check if he can borrow Julian Mill's trailer.
SC to ask Preschool to run the tractor ride event.
Leaflet drop on tractor route 2 weeks before event to ask residents to put up their Christmas lights.
5. Idea to have a Santa's Grotto at this event. Grotto to be held on the stage, with access/queuing around the back of the stage, and the exit down the stairs on the front. HH and AH have offered the use of their sleigh for the grotto. FC will be Toby.
SC to make signs for the Grotto.
Fairy lights/foliage
Rocking chair/red blankets
SC to ask if Friends of the School want to run the Grotto

'Fake' presents for the Grotto and around the tree

6. Stalls

SC to get in touch with :

Jan Burgess – Church (Mulled wine, mistletoe, mincepies)

Esther Cohen – I am Natural Toiletries

Rosemary Cohen – Jams and Chutneys

Brenda Kent -Jewellery

Cathy Hill – 'Little Boxes' and other items

Kimmy Burbridge – Aromatherapy

Egerton Preschool

Friends of the School

The Barrow House – Food

Michelle Ede – Bodyshop at Home products

AH/HH to get in touch with the Cricket Club, WI, Over 60's

GH to get in touch with Mary Pheby (Sweets) and the Minstrels

7. Other entertainment:

Guess the name of the reindeer, Pin the tail on the reindeer, how many FCs in the tub?

Stalls could be manned by daughters of committee members!

Canvass for free prizes or buy them, money in budget?

Colouring competition Ages: under 6yrs, 7-9yrs, over age 9

Cathy Hill is drawing a new Christmas card sketch and would be happy for us to use it for the colouring competition.

Best Christmas Hat?

Colouring poster to be printed out and handed out to every school child

Need someone to collect and judge the prizes

Prizes for competitions to be bought

8. Set up/take down

GH to check on huts with AH the weekend before the Fair.

GH to ask Dave Austin and Jay to help with set up.

SC to ask Lesley Godden-Hope for straw bales.

New marquee – use coloured insulation tape to mark the sections

Ask people to help with set up: Martin Chapman, Rob Walker and more

Steph Hensing – to provide holly for decoration and help decorate hall

Volunteers to put huts away on Saturday night

Volunteers to clear the hall on Sunday morning

9. Marketing

HH to write blurb for Egerton Update by 15 October.

HH – to update one of Cathy Hill's posters and put in Village shop.

Kentish Express? Who pays?

Wooden Christmas Tree signs – who has them and who will update them/put them up?

10. Insurance – Heather James

SC to send minutes of meeting to Heather before 5 November to get PC insurance for event.