



*6. Website:* Has been updated since the 2016 AGM. In addition the guild now has a Facebook Page. This is purely as a point of contact, and points people to the main website. An increasing number of people search for community groups via Facebook, so it could be a valuable way of attracting new members.

The Guild also now has a Facebook group. It was requested that this be set up to be a private group, so members can only see what is written on approval by a moderator. At present this is Rebecca O'Doherty. It's not the primary way that information will be shared. Anything important will still be added to the website and sent out to people who have paid their annual membership by email. However, it could be a useful resource to share links, tutorial, and news from other sources. If you would like to join just search for Montgomeryshire Guild WSD.

#### *7. Programme for 2018 -*

The programme for 2018 features workshops that cover all of our general skills, alongside open meetings. The draft programme handed out at the meeting contains one alteration. The Dorset Buttons meeting in May has been swapped to April.

We have received an invitation to demonstrate by the Club Forest Sheep Society Day held at Club Memorial Hall on 18th August. Members present felt happy to add this to our programme, we've reduced our demonstration commitments in the past couple of years, so it's important we get out and show people what we do! The society is happy for us to sell items at this event.

The Vintage Machinery Rally at Caersws will probably want us to demonstrate again this year on 28th May. They pay us £60 for this demonstration, so it's nice to get as large a turnout as possible.

Lynne Geldart raised an issue on behalf of a member who couldn't attend, concerning the Buffet Lunches that we have when there is a workshop happening at a meeting. It was suggested that they only be held when we bring in an extra speaker.

Katie Weston reminded members that this decision was made at a previous AGM, and suggested we put it back to the vote to check members were still happy for this to happen. Numerous members spoke up in support of the current arrangement.

At the vote the majority votes in favour of the current arrangement, with 2 abstains.

Members were reminded that if anyone has any issues they can always approach a member of the committee and discuss an issue confidentially, and we'll try to help make things easier/better.

Jill Shepherd also raised the issue of food hygiene. At times food can be left out for 3 hours or more. We have a fridge in the kitchen, so if you bring along food that need to be refrigerated please use it at the start of the meeting. We will also put food back in to the fridge after everyone has eaten.

Due to the limitations on waste disposal at the all can members please take away their own leftovers. You may need to check the fridge before you leave!

The 2019 programme is already being put together. Currently we're proposing to have 3 external speakers-

Chrissie Menzies to do Felting on Fabric

Sarah Stacey to teach advanced spinning techniques

Lucy Baxendale for a weekend of paper making.

#### *8. Membership cost*

Membership cost remains at £30 for a full year.

This gives members access to the library and equipment, and also means that they are on the mailing list to get reminders and notifications about upcoming meetings.

Half year membership will still remain at £15 for people joining from July onwards.

Day visitors will continue to pay £3. This is to attend a meeting, and includes tea and coffee. Non-members can't borrow library books or equipment, and won't receive emails from the secretary about upcoming meetings.

Thanks to the cake providers, who provide cake for us to eat free of charge.

#### *9. A.O.B*

Amanda Laing gave a vote of thanks for the committee in recognition of all the behind the scenes work that goes in to running the guild.

The Guild contact list is getting little unwieldy, and occasionally Katie and Elaine aren't managing to keep the list up to date. This will be looked at, and we hope to do better in the future!

Katie Weston suggested the the guild organise name badges. This will help new members, visitors, and those of us who are not good at names! They will be a non-pin version, and a temporary one will be available for visitors. Members felt this was a good idea, so Katie will start to organise this.

*13. Date of next AGM - 98h December 2019*