# Beltane Fire Society Board Meeting Minutes

Date and Time:	Monday 12th February 2024, 7pm - 9pm
Location:	Beltonia, and dial in option on invitation
Invited:	All Board members, Blues, DM, S&R Officer
Present:	Sara Thomas, Luca Gallici, Sammi Searle, Lisa Maher, Steve Glover, Tom Watton, Brad McCarthur, Sophie McCarthy, C'tri Goudie

Item	Time	Details	Item Lead
1. Welcome		<ul> <li>Apologies         <ul> <li>James Turner, Mairi McKay, Stew Wilson,</li> </ul> </li> <li>Mailis Marty and Eva Murzyn</li> <li>Declarations of interest regarding any agenda items</li> <li>SG - I notice Jenny's name is on the agenda so I'm COI on that front.</li> </ul>	ALL
2. Review of minutes and action points		Decision: approval of previous minutes         1. Minutes from 15/01/24  SS - All in favour?  Aye - 4, Nay 0, Abs 0          2. Minutes from voting Jenny as Trustee         Assistant  SS - I couldn't find the meeting minutes for this micro meeting, can SM add them in here when there's a chance?          • Update: Review any previous action points  Done, see the bottom. This is always gnarly, well done everyone	ALL ALL
3. Operations Issues [Operations]	19:23	Blues Update ST- Group chats ongoing, some requests are a little different. Keeping a close eye where the parts of the festival that are quite fixed / sacred / not open to co-creating are properly managed.  Blue - new Blue blurbs need to go on the website, who do I send those to? SM - Send them to me! LG - posted mine on the slack Onboarding of Blues continues.	BLUES

Sarah Barr has let us know that the trees on charge slope, and that at least one was a memorial tree to a young death - we must be respectful since it's an active memorial site.

Any other notes?

SG - don't think so

LG - I had a nice chat with Tech, they like the idea of tech being better able to interact with the crowd, and people being better able to manage that. Perhaps some training with Stewards on how to manage that.

ST - Reluctant to ask Ella as she's super busy

CG - Goblin Tek would be down for learning that stuff and passing it on

TW & CG to have a chat with Ella and figure out how to proceed with that.

#### Artist in Residence

ALL

SS - we went for Hester Aspland in the end, whose work is incredible. What is the update on announcing Hester? SM - Gabby sent me a comms plan. Before that I wanted some form of announcement to happen by the open meeting. I asked Hester, I don't know what pronouns they use so I'm going with neutral ones, but I asked for an "about me" to go on the site. It's on the plan for the week after the Open Meeting one way or the other.

TW- Things are ready to go on Thursday if we get the artwork for that.

SM - very time sensitive, will do before work.

#### • Imbolc 24

SS - it happened, it was a lovely day. We had the afternoon session, curious members of the public were present which was lovely

Evening event went really well, I thought it was extremely valuable, and would definitely say we should keep it in mind for future events. It feels very important, and lots of people learned things.

Thanks to MQ Alix and everyone involved in making it happen and making it such a good event.

TW - just to say, I transferred the raw video data and have been doing bits of video editing with John Wilson. No deadlines since it's taking a while.

SS - special thanks to Sarah Barr who gave up time, and also the random members who were incredibly helpful but I didn't catch their names!

### Beltane 24

## 1. GM selection

SM - We selected. It's been communicated. ST - I had a query on one of the applicants and was asking for feedback, will make sure that's emailed in. SS

SS - Huzzah, much jubilation. And things. Very looking forward to seeing what he does.	
2. GO selection a. Potential processionals crew SS - [REDACTED] All in favour? 5 in favour (1 absentee vote from Stew), 3 abstain.	
SS - I'll take communicating with them and ensure the conversation takes place	
b. Any word on bower.	ALL SM
SM what have we done about that in the past?	
TW to manage Bower actions being distributed across the other groups	
c. Maipole and their role in the	ALL
SM - to my knowledge, MM is having a meeting with them this week to discuss parameters, boundaries, but SM might not be available for those meetings.	
3. GO weekend a. Discussion around power imbalance for court/trustees/blues SS - I very much don't want us getting caught in the weeds right now with right this second but we do need to figure out guidance/ rules surrounding don't-screw-the-crew surrounding court roles, and similar for trustees & blues. We do need to discuss it, but let's take it offline and bring it to conclusion at the next board meeting.	ALL
4. Open Meeting SM - I'm getting coffee with someone from historic environment scotland. He's coming to witness ICH in a beltane context, so we'll have HES there and SM will be responsible for that.  A. flyers TW - Not happening, but other actions taken involving the internet and networking.	ALL
B. meetup (the platform) TW - I'll do that, can post a listing as part of my continuing efforts on this front.	ALL
C. online options SS - getting the usual questions about that. TW - if we're happy, I can livestream straight to youtube (same as last time) SM - I'll be happy to be on chat and moderate.	ALL

ST - who's your ICH / HES person? SM - will check and get back to you. SS - any issues with Andy T MCing? CG - he's GOing? TW - not a problem. CG - sweet, I'm also happy to do it. SM - Both? Both. Both. SS - anything else? TW - I'll have merch! We can do the stock take. Torchie sign up sheet to go on Board table TW to ensure suggestion that torchies don't pay group subs Discussion about individual torchie roles and care to be communicated through GO meeting 5. GO meetings ALL SS - everything sorted? TW - yes TW 6. Onboarding GOs to systems SS - everything sorted? CG - so far! TW - Processionals and Maipole to follow. TW 7. GRS TW - to keep Board updated of any GRS to still be sourced **Preparations for Samhuinn 24** MM- What has been done so far: Pencilled in dates with the Bongo Club from the 8th of September Pencilled in dates for the GO weekend with the Salisbury centre (big studio + the lawn (fire pit not available on the Saturday)) on the 24th and the 25th of August. Need to chase up Out of the Blue and the Leith Theater for the 31st of August or the 1st of September for the open meeting I still need to find drum venues for the 1st of September (depending on Open Meeting) and the 4th of September as Bongo will still be a Fringe Venue / recovering from the fringe. TW - for the afterparty this Samhuinn, we've got a caves price, to secure it and balance the loss of sales. I've forwarded that to you SS, but I'd suggest we need to get back to Norman in the next month. It's looking healthy. SS to chat with TW and C'tri about this AGM 24 ALL

	SS I know MM is still ongoing with this	
	SS - I know MM is still ongoing with this.  • Student Project Research Beltane 2024 (see email transferred from festival@)  SM - oh yes, I was gonna reply to this, I'd be happy to chat./ facilitate to the best of my ability	SM
	SM to reply to this email	
	• Name changes/Dead names  LM - One of the things I want to do is write something up with Sammi to make it very clear that whilst we have to follow the rules set down by the law, only the smallest possible number of people will know that. We whole heartedly support anyone who wants to change their name for any reason.  [Unanimous handwaving]	LM
	LM and SS to draft a statement about this for the website and share	
4. Governance Issues [Governance]	<ul> <li>Small Claims Court</li> <li>SS to draft initial letter and share</li> <li>Trustee Assistant</li> </ul>	ALL
	SS - I'll write up an email with our recommendations, and find out from people what they want to do.	ALL
	SS- had a few people reaching out with the interest in coming on as T.A and will pursue that after Beltane.	
5. Finance & Income Generation	Treasurer Update	CG
[Governance]	Would like to ask for your advice on how to get that in front of people?	
	ST - point people to the filings with OSCR.  • Financial Assistance Policy  A. send out a info thing	
	Discussed in actions.	CG & SM
	Tickets sales- SS - how's that going	CG & SIVI
	TW - we have a box office waiting list for people who want to get things going, but day-1 seems to be the best source of sales.	ALL
	Expecting this year to be less financially lucrative because of the weekend, and we're trying to keep costs down. Security costs have gone through the roof lately.	
6. Board Project Progress [Strategy/Operations]	Diversity and Inclusion Update     1. EDI training  Still no action, so SS and SM to have a chet.	SM
	Still no action, so SS and SM to have a chat  2. Accessibility  SM was to chat with Jenny about this, once we've had the	SM

	<ul> <li>"do you still wanna be assistant?" I can touch base with her about specific recommendations and point those recommendations to TW.</li> <li>I do know so many people who say "I wanna go but it's on top of a hill" or "I wanna go but it's so loud and there's so many people" - and I wanna work Jenny's suggestions in so we include that range of needs too.</li> <li>Fringe by the Sea/Lughnasagh 24</li> <li>Sent an updated map this evening, planning is heading in the right direction. In terms of that, I'll suggest we start a Fringe By the Sea steering group (similar to a selection committee) to find out who we want to invite to that group. A bit of planning to go, but think we should take that out of this meeting and make that on Slack Action - punt this chat onto Slack</li> </ul>	TW
	Midsummer 24	SS/MM
	SS to touch base with Alix  • Translation Projects  SS - Andy was taking this point and I'll roll this on as I've not had time to make progress.	SS
	<ul> <li>Safeguarding/Resolutions Accessibility to</li> </ul>	ss
	Members SS - One of the things I'm going to work on as part of my projects is to improve the community's interface and ease of access with Lisa etc, and Idk if BM wants to come on board from the sustainability side of things. I want to get started on that before the end. SS/BM and LM to initiate this project asap	
7. Community Issues [Board only]	• [REDACTED]	ALL
	NON REDACTED     Lisa visiting for Beltane LM - Can we have it minuted that I would officially like to ask the board if I can come to Beltane?	ss
	ALL to have discussion of S/R officer coming to witness festival	
	Changes to investigation outcome process LM - I would like to bring up with the board some	LM
	suggestions for changes with how we deal with outcome reports for cases.  ALL to have discussion on potential changes to way the process of dealing with outcome reports is managed	
	reports for cases.  ALL to have discussion on potential changes to way the	

8. AOB	Intangible Cultural Heritage SM - C'tri and I are working on a response to the government consultation on Intangible Consultation Heritage, on the topic of ratifying the UNESCO treaty on that. We've been going to round-tables and it's been good.  I'd deeply appreciate any thoughts form Blues, Board, Tom, and have been sharing this round the membership for them to fill out, to get peoples' thoughts on how important this is to them.  ALL to look into this and give thoughts if they have capacity	SM
	Proceeds of Crime funding  TW - there's a Proceeds of Crime for volunteer organisations for getting funding for training on first aid and security and such	TW
9. Close of Meeting	Confirm date of next meeting 26th for check in and then 11th for the real meeting.	ALL