

**Beltane Fire Society**  
**Board Meeting Minutes**  
 (timings are approximate)

<b>Date and Time:</b>	Tuesday May 6th 2025, 1915 for 1930
<b>Location:</b>	Beltonia
<b>Present:</b>	Present in person: Jenny Bloom, Neil Barton, Steffie Sutherland, Franklyn Reinhart, Robert Lee, Tom Watton Present electronically: Jenny Glover, Andy MacLeod, Simone Last, Steve Glover Apologies: None

Item		Details	Action on
<b>1. Welcome and general</b>	1930	Jenny Bloom opened the meeting and welcomed everyone.  There were no apologies, nor Declarations of Interest.  Everyone checked in, as usual.	
<b>2. Minutes Agreement and review of urgent action points</b>	1942	The Minutes from the last meetings (April 5 and April 21) were reviewed and agreed.  It was decided not to review the open actions, but that Jenny Bloom would check them to see if any could be closed or delegated (Action 11.1)	11.1 Jenny Bloom
<b>3. Operations (Blues update)</b>	1945	I Steve gave a quick Blues update, pointing out that the Blues debrief had not yet happened (scheduled for Sunday May 11th). He said that things are mainly fine, apart from a few minor things, nothing too serious.	
<b>Operations (Contractors' update) Tom Watton</b>	1948	II There are a few bits of equipment still to be returned.  There may be some minor damage from the Maypole falling on a siren.  But everything is mostly ok.	

		However, the parks levy has not yet been charged (BFS did not agree to it, and it wasn't mentioned in the contract).	
<b>Operations (General overview of the Festival, not a debrief) Tom Watton</b>	1950	III In general, the Festival went well, after a busy 2 months of preparation. 6,670 tickets were sold, including about 1,000 sold on the day, so attendance is down from previous years (there are various reasons for this, such as the proximity of Easter or the Bank Holiday). However, the length of time people stayed at the Festival was higher than at previous years	
<b>Operations (AGM Planning)</b>	1954	<p>IV Group members need to be informed in advance. Suggested dates are June 14th or 15th, venue to be finalised. The AGM attendance will depend on whether there are any controversial items.</p> <p>Probable items for the AGM (all these items are included in Action 11.2):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- AGM announcement, to be in correct format.</li> <li>- Trustee applications, to be in correct format (to be distributed before the AGM)</li> <li>- AGM Minutes from last year to be available</li> <li>- Trustee resignations and appointments</li> </ul> <p>Also these two items are included in Action 11.3:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- BFS Chair's presentation covering the BFS Board work done for the last year</li> <li>- To formally announce the venue for Samhuinn.</li> </ul> <p>Voting methodology and membership lists updated (Action 11.4)</p>	<p>11.2 Steffie Sutherland</p> <p>11.3 Jenny Bloom</p> <p>11.4 Robert Lee, Jenny Glover</p>

<b>Operations (Allocation of tasks for Samhuinn)</b>	2002	<p>V Tom has been checking venues, but nothing is fixed yet. Leith Theatre is not available (because of work on the toilets), but may be available next year.</p> <p>Things to arrange:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Open meeting (date, time, venue to arrange)</li> <li>- GO training weekend (date, time, venue to arrange)</li> <li>- After party - will probably be The Caves. To arrange with Tom Cain.</li> </ul> <p>Drum rehearsal rooms</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To email Ali, Bongo Club for usual slots in September-October, subject to confirmation in August.</li> </ul> <p>Enquire if possible venue for AGM (later note: AGM may be held at the Quaker Meeting House, not yet confirmed) (Action 11.6).</p>	<p>11.5 Tom Watton</p> <p>11.5 Tom Watton</p> <p>11.5 Tom Watton</p> <p>11.6 Andy MacLeod</p>
<b>Operations (Quick check in, information for GO Debrief)</b>	2006	<p>VI The GO Debrief will take place on Tuesday May 13th at the Methodist Centre (Nicolson Square), evening 7pm</p> <p>All Board members will attend</p> <p>Steffie will mention subjects picked up so far from individual group debriefs - these are/will be separated between Board facing and GO facing subjects.</p>	
<b>Operations (Lughnasagh planning)</b>	2010	<p>VII Lughnasagh this year will be August 1st (according to Google), but events can be up to 2 weeks after that date</p> <p>There was a discussion whether to have a camp out or a picnic. Having a weekend away after the stress of Beltane would be lovely, but this would need permission from the landowner if camping.</p> <p>Rob Thorburn's farm may be available the 2nd weekend in August and Tom Watton said a coach may be available for transport.</p> <p>No firm decision was made, but there is time to chat about it and compare notes.</p>	

<b>Operations (Where we are with the hiring process)</b>	2020	<p>VIII Currently, two new Contractors are in place: Lisette for Front of House and Andy for Contractors' Assistant.</p> <p>The Production and Site Coordinator post is vacant, due to the resignation of Rob Thorburn. Currently, there are 6 applicants, who were all offered free tickets for the Festival. After a pause for Beltane, work will now be ongoing with interviews for the shortlisted candidates.</p>	
<b>Operations (final part: new internet provider)</b>	2035	IX There is now a new internet provider (Tom Watton has the details).	
<b>Governance (Handling of medical information)</b>	2040	<p>There have been some concerns about confidentiality of handling of BFS members' medical information. Normally most information is deleted after each festival for reasons of security and privacy, but some members have life threatening allergies which need to be recorded</p> <p>Following discussion, it was decided that the number of people with access to group members' medical information should be checked, that the current Volunteer Agreement form should be checked and that the Data Protection Policy should be updated (Action 11.7).</p> <p>It was also mentioned that it would be helpful to consider updating the GDPR policy (originally created by Shae Dunsmore) and the Health and Safety data retention document (Action 11.8).</p>	<p>11.7 Tom Watton, Robert Lee</p> <p>11.8 Jenny Bloom</p>
<b>Finance and Income Generation</b>	2050	<p>There are no actual figures available for April 2025, as there is a lot of information due to a lack of supplier invoices.</p> <p>Citizen Tickets have sent an email for tickets for £105,000.</p> <p>There is an expected surplus of £35,000 from Beltane.</p> <p>More invoices will be available at or shortly after the GO Debrief.</p>	
<b>AOB (C'tri Goudie's suggestion to</b>	2100	C'tri Goudie has expressed interest in rejoining the Board, and has asked if it would be helpful to be co-opted as a Trustee before the AGM.	

<b>be co-opted to Board)</b>		After discussion, the Board decided that, as the AGM is not very far away, it would be sensible to have him stand as Trustee rather than be co-opted for this short time. In the meantime, he will be welcomed as a Safeguarding Officer, and will continue his work as a Community Organiser.	
<b>AOB continued (Social events)</b>	2105	Jenny Glover mentioned that plans are underway to schedule between festival events specifically for members new to the Society, such as a Festival DVD showing at the Banshee Labyrinth. Andy Walker has film footage of the Beltane Walkthrough and the Festival which may be available.	
<b>AOB continued (General matters)</b>	2110	<p>The Dreadlocks advice has been distributed to members and will be added to the BFS members' page. (Action 11.9 Jenny Bloom will edit this slightly)</p> <p>The Anti Far Right Statement has received positive feedback, including some donations.</p>	11.9 Jenny Bloom
<b>AOB final (Donations)</b>	2115	It was formally documented for the Minutes that one long standing BFS member regularly donates £25 a month, occasionally more, and has persuaded their employer to match donations for the Busks.	
<b>Date of next meeting</b>		The next meeting will be held on <b>SUNDAY June 1st</b> at 1930-2100 online.	