

Beltane Fire Society

Board Meeting Agenda

Date and Time:	Monday 17 November 2025, 19:30 - 21:30 Dinner and chat from 18:30
Location:	Beltonia / Google Meet
Invited:	Board, Blues, Ops Support
Present:	C'tri, Jenny B, Robert, Neil, Steffie Jenny G, Andy MacLeod

Item	Time	Notes
FORMAL MATTERS	10 min 19:40	
Welcome, check ins and apologies	19:30 19:36	
Minutes	19:36 19:37	Approve as an accurate record Voted: aye 4, abs 2 ZK Action - can we include a link to the minutes in the agenda going forwards?
Action Log and Matters Arising	19:38 19:	Note Action Log and any matters arising JB Action - Message Gabby to double check the social media situation The board reviewed and updated the action log.
OPERATIONS		
Blues Update	10 min	JB: No blues present, but we're not aware of any earth shattering stuff. Blues are all currently focusing on the MQ selection. JB notes from the GO debrief, the community is extremely happy with the Blues at the moment. CG: Let's talk about the May Queen selection. Expressions of interest from Steffie, C'tri, and Jenny G. Various: Expressed excitement and enjoyment of being involved in this. JG: Can the board know who's on the long list? JB: I don't see the harm in asking, but it's normally quite confidential to protect those who aren't selected. The board chats about the open-ended term of the MQ and how sometimes people leave with the feeling "I should have left last year" C'tri - we could encourage Blues to recommend MQs have an exit strategy/ thoughts on when to consider leaving. Steffie - why minimum 3 years?

		<p>Lore is discussed, and a mention of the 2017 blether is made. The notes of that to be circulated.</p> <p>JB is happy with the board's existing relationship with the Blues when it comes to broaching this topic. The board does not feel the need to revisit this at this time.</p> <p>JG - Just a piece of festival debrief feedback, having a steward with a radio standing next to a Blue was super helpful for everyone.</p>
Contractors Update	10 min	<p>AM delivers an update TW - one of his best Eve - good first festival</p> <p>Generally, things going well, Tom still busy with a personal emergency, Andy Mac taking point on the Beltonia tidy up.</p> <p>JB reports all is well in Simone (safeguarding) land.</p>
SysAdmin Team Update	10 min	<p>RL: We had a few issues with the web server running out of disk spaces towards the end of the festival, and have made several adjustments to that.</p> <p>Neil: Are all the photographs backed up?</p> <p>RL: Yes, Photopoint have a copy of the photos, but not necessarily the data of who took which photo.</p> <p>RL: C'tri made a monitoring bot that alerts us in Slack when it's running out of disk space.</p> <p>RL: A bot checking bot was discussed, that could get recursive quickly.</p> <p>RL: There was an issue with the magic sign up forms failing half way through the run up, issue resolved, found a couple of wrinkles there due to latecomers.</p> <p>RL: Couple of lesser GDPR breaches (nothing notifiable), just the usual email thing.</p> <p>Action for RL: can we check if Neil's membership hasn't lapsed? JB: Some places it says "3 festivals" some places it says "3 years", we should make it consistent?</p> <p>[Action for the Quest Board] - Jenny B promises a coffee to the person who achieves this.</p> <p>RL upcoming actions: Post-festival tidyup of accounts Question about rotating Stewards account (personal preference for future GOs?)</p> <p>JB: What's the function for updating someone's email address? RL: Best for it to be sysadmin, we can get the mailing lists and the database in one go.</p>
Community Organisers Update	5 min	<p>Steffie: CO meeting on the 25th, some people have come forward. It feels like there's more engagement with the community via this method.</p>

		<p>otherwise.</p> <p>CG: I'd rather not give permission to anyone to email to a list that includes people who opted-out, but I do think there is value in being able to reach people.</p> <p>[general discussion] There is broad agreement from everyone to create a "festival-all" for the volunteer survey, and to update our agreements to reflect that consent.</p> <p>JB: I have instincts against a big singular welcome email that's to the festival and to the groups, I think things will get lost.</p> <p>JB: We want to keep the individual personality of the groups and not squish that. A nice flavourful email full of RED doesn't belong in the same space as a festival wide welcome email from the board with information.</p> <p>CG: this is the same thing as the GO application form, risking sacrificing creative freedoms for some improvements in efficiency, don't think we should proceed with that.</p> <p>RL: Makes sense, happy to proceed with that understanding</p> <p>All: happy for Robert to proceed with a "from the board" welcome email, and leave "welcome to the group" to GOs.</p>
<p>FINANCE & INCOME GENERATION</p>		
<p>Link to month's accounts / Samhuinn accounts</p>	<p>15 min</p>	<p>Draft October 2025 Accounts</p> <p>This folder also includes Samhuinn up to 16th November.</p> <p>CG: skimmed them! NB: Core expenditure is the same, most of the expenses is Samhuinn. We're on course for Tom's predicted 12k deficit. Currently on -1000 with more invoices to come.</p> <p>Missing contracts for Lisette and Andy? JB: I'll get those to you NB: Afterparty, Torchies had some leftover funds which they donated to the firewood party, a very appreciated gesture. NB: afterparty looking at -1200, and I'm okay with that, it's a service to the community and not about making money.</p> <p>Accessibility grants: Beltane had 6 applicants, Samhuinn had 14. JB: I don't think 14 / 289 people is an alarming amount.</p> <p>JG: I had an agitated email from a deer steward, "seeing that the festival made thousands and thousands of profit, why did she have to make a £5 subscription?" Do we need to communicate better?</p> <p>JB: Even transparent communication doesn't stop people doing this, because they'll say the opposite "if we're already losing 12k, why are you being stingy?". There is nothing that will soothe everyone, be reassured.</p> <p>[general discussion about the AP ticketing prices, tiered pricing that</p>

	<p>includes bus tickets etc... general consensus is that was all too complicated and last minute and could have gone wrong]</p> <p>SS: Re the accessibility fund - maybe then if not putting a cap on, or putting a date on, but how do you feel as Treasurer?</p> <p>NB: I'm glad people are using it, but that also means that people are struggling because they're using it. We're on a no questions honesty policy.</p> <p>JB: Does anyone feel strongly that we <i>should</i> cap this? Does anyone feel that it <i>is</i> over used?</p> <p>[no one]</p> <p>Everyone is glad that it's there, sad that it's needed.</p> <p>JB & NB are both happy that it's well-known <i>enough</i> at the moment, additional comms about it aren't needed.</p> <p>Currently at -29k loss for the year, probably expecting to be at -45k loss. More ticket sales for Beltane would have been nice.</p> <p>Busk - not really a money maker anymore.</p> <p>CG: How long can we keep doing this? NB: 125k in the bank, 2 and a bit years at the current losses. Depends what day of the week Beltane falls on in 2026 AM: Saturday! [general cheering] Redacted</p> <p>—</p>
<p>DATES</p>	<p>JB: I was saying over lunch, there aren't many things to debrief with the contractors, but the selection panel was a bit spicy, perhaps an online meeting of the selection panel and compare our concerns with what actually happened, and if we should update our thinking about any of those people. Useful and therapeutic?</p> <p>NB: if it's online we might get more people, but I prefer in person.</p> <p>JB: It is nice to be able to do "straight to bed"?</p> <p>C'tri to do a Doodle poll to find a date Steffie to shepherd C'tri</p> <p>—</p> <p>Next board meeting? JB: Let's leave it penciled in for the 9th, and check in the week before. If there's not enough to talk about, lets kick it to January.</p> <p>JG: I'll be on a train back home, tentative apologies</p> <p>Action for ZK - make the meeting invite</p>

COMMUNITY ISSUES	21:03	Andy MacLeod flees, promising to warn the other contractors about our incoming things. SS: Kat CO is going to catch up with Becky about the poster artist contract, and work with Steffie to get things implemented.
[Case]		Redacted
AOB		
<i>Add agenda items here...</i>		
CLOSE OF MEETING		