**Derby Makers – Steering Committee Meeting 22nd March 2018 18:30**

**Radio Museum, Derby**

**Present** :

Morgan Barke (Chair), Mark Hancox (Secretary). Paul Stevens (Treasurer), Julie Brandon, Al Johnson, Tony Brookes, Brendon Stafford

**Apologies** :

Grant Gibson

**Minutes of the previous meeting (January SCM, 24-Jan-2018), were reviewed :**

* **Laser Cutter purchase** :
	+ Now complete and delivery expected on 27/03/2018 [Update : delivered]
	+ Chiller purchase – also complete with imminent delivery [Update : delivered]
	+ We have a suitable computer and hard drive but need a copy of Windows
	+ There still needs to be some work before it can be used at the Museum, eg extraction
	+ **Action : MB (and others)** to implement installation and set-up
* **Web Site** :
	+ This is up and running
	+ The domain is now under our control for 2 years (Glyn Smith account)
	+ We also have derbymakers.org.uk registered to Al
	+ This all needs formalising and finishing off
	+ **Action : MB and AJ**
* **Derby MakerSpace** :
	+ Grant did contact them and currently sees no specific competition with DM, since he/they seem to be setting up a commercial “Fab Lab”
	+ There followed a discussion around Grant's email report (circulated by MH on 11-02-2018)
	+ No current action, but we should maintain a watching brief
* **Spending policy** :
	+ The Spending Policy has been approved by 5 signatories from the SC
	+ It has been agreed that the Spending Policy should be made available on the DM web site
	+ **Action : MH and AJ**
* **Revised membership form** :
	+ Ref previous meeting’s minutes; to let new member specify preferred means of contact
	+ WIP (MH) – taking opportunity to have a general “tidy up of the form” [NOTE : will also need to revisit Junior members form on same basis]
	+ **Action : MH**
* **Overlocker** :
	+ There were mixed reports on the cheaper Lidl machine (thanks to Julie for collating feedback)
	+ Amanda has bought a Lidl machine but not yet used it, so can’t provide feedback; maybe for the future, if she can bring her machine along to DM we could have a look and ask some questions
	+ Suggested that a better bet would be the Brother starter machine
	+ Morgan pointed out that just getting an Overlocker would actually be answering the wrong question, and that the original reason for getting one came from a request from Pam (who is no longer a member)
	+ There was discussion on the right approach here : would it be best to get the machine and see who came to use it, or to approach potential members to see if it would attract them in, either as members or just to talk over the subject?
	+ **Action : TB and JB** (to continue discussions)

**New Agenda Items :**

* **Alternative day of the week :**
	+ When moving from the Silk Mill we could no longer meet on Wednesday and other days would suit some and be impossible for others
	+ This has resulted in previous active members not being able to attend on Thursdays
	+ It was suggested that we trial a “first Tuesday in the month” with a view to expanding Tuesdays if there is enough interest. Because the RM is closed for May it was proposed to start this in June.
	+ **Action : MB/MH/PS** to discuss Tuesday access with Steve (whoever sees him first)
* **Web site :**
	+ Al to offer guidance in on how to add content to the web site
	+ **Action : AJ (and all members)**
* **Deershed Festival :**
	+ MH received an email from the organisers of this 3 day Summer Festival in Yorkshire, asking for a Rope Making workshop
	+ MH has responded and several emails have been exchanged, but no response to his latest email with detailed questions
	+ Since the event would involve travelling and staying over, we would need more detail that we have in order to commit, therefore it doesn’t look like this is going to happen
	+ However the principle of supporting such events is seen as a good one (see below)
	+ No current action
* **Maker Events :**
	+ GG has learned about a Makers Market on 10am-6pm on Saturday May 5th in Littleover
	+ It was felt that we should do this, as a learning exercise if nothing else, but with the main aim to is expand membership by getting DM more widely known
	+ **Action : All members** to support [Update : 5 or 6 strong expressions of interest from the members so far]
	+ **Action : GG** to contact event organisers and get us registered [Update : key event organiser away until April 6th, GG will get in contact then]
* **Publicity :**
	+ We need some leaflets and business cards printed to distribute at events.
	+ Should include Social Benefits, list of equipment available, all contact details
	+ Contact email should be “info@derbymakers.co.uk” as less intimidating than “secretary@” as this looks official and may put someone off
	+ **Action : MH and others** [Update, GG has drafted leaflet, MH has drafted business card, both shared with membership for review; agreed that need to be consistent with each other and ideally website as well]
* **Community Actions Mailing List** :
	+ Find out more
	+ **Action : JB**
* **Inter Hackspace phone** :
	+ Investigate
	+ **Action : AJ**
* **Find out about Maker Faires (nationally) and when being run :**
	+ Also check with GG re Makers Market
	+ **Action : MH**
	+ [Update : see <https://makerfaire.com/map/>, there are 3 “official” UK Maker Faires on the Maker Faire website : Newcastle 28/29 April, Edinburgh (Mini) 15 April, Glasgow (Mini) 29 July; only Glasgow is still taking applications for Makers; nothing in Derby]
* **Set up QR code to link to web site** :
	+ For use in Dm publicity
	+ **Action : AJ and MH**

**Date of next meeting : 31/05/2018**

**[NOTE : Radio Museum closed in May (Steve on holiday) so meeting venue TBD; PS has suggested booking the upper room at the Silk Mill pub]**