

Siobhan Fennell (Chair)

Introduction

Another unusual year as we have all adjusted to a more thoughtful way of living. At Accessible Belper we have managed to maintain various activities although some have been curtailed due to ill health.

Yearly round up

- The Accessible Strategy developed last year is now an Accessible Action Plan that we have worked on with Town Council members. We have met regularly on zoom to progress this.
- Representatives have attended a number of summer markets with the Town Council members. This has given us an opportunity to promote the partnership of the Town Council with AB. We have also encouraged people to complete the accessibility Domestic and Business questionnaire for Belper Town.
- We have continually promoted inspirational role models on social media eg. Paralympians, Scope advisors, Strictly Come Dancing contestant and a CBBC presenter
- We have responded to Amber Valley taxi survey along with local Councillors to attempt to influence an improvement in accessible transport
- We have joined the Town Council working group to audit and improve toilet provision. There is now much more awareness of the inadequacy of toilets particularly for people with disabilities. There is also a willingness in businesses to assist in improving provision.
- Dave Barnes, who is the new Council Accessibility Champion has worked with us on a number of projects. One of these has been an accessibility audit toolkit for businesses. This is now available on the website and replaces AB members going out to audit businesses themselves.
- We have developed and provided a new accessibility training for the Youth Council and we have provided updated training for the full Town. Council.
- We have contributed accessibility awareness to a review of Council policies including Grants, Events and Committee reports
- Partnering with Belper Fringe we have provided two virtual Johnny Victory concerts
- The AB reputation is still growing and we have worked closely with other groups around the country.
- Established links company producing Access Rating app, based in Leicester.

Conclusion

Despite another year of upheaval Accessible Belper has remained active particularly in our work with the Town Council Accessibility Working Group. In fact, having worked for a number of years to raise awareness of disabling conditions in the town of Belper, we hope that other organisations will now ensure that accessibility is at the forefront of their practice. Hence, it is time for us to wind up many of our activities although we hope to remain an advisory group. I will be writing a final report which will include a final closure of our financial accounts

Accessible Belper Committee

Siobhan Fennell Chair

Carol Sayers Vice Chair

Graham Fennell Treasurer

Associate Member

Russell Mason

Acknowledgements

John Porter, Simon Mallett, Dave Barnes, Rosemary Hale, Carol Angharad, Mary Dwyer

Please find Treasurer's Report and balance report to date attached.