

## TRUSTEES & SOCIAL GATHERING

Following our Strategic Planning meeting, Simon suggested that a less formal and more relaxed event or gathering could help us to get to know each other better and build relationships between us. I agree with him and below are the ideas for such a meeting he shared with me. I'd like us to decide which we would like to follow up on at the Board meeting on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> February.

I have to say I like the idea of going to the Winery.

1. Simply go out for a meal together whether lunch or dinner. I have found that eating together does more to build relationships than almost anything else. If costs are an issue, I have used Farnham Beefeater as it is excellent value for money and has well spaced tables of varying sizes.

2. Take a visit to the Bombay Sapphire Distillery near Witchchurch, Hampshire, for an informative fun gin tasting tour and they have a cafe that serves simple lunches.

3. Book the skittles alley at The Jolly Farmer, Blacknest near Bentley for a fun evening of skittles followed by a meal that is normally just a variety of basket meals with chips. It can be a great fun event and one that I have used with Sandy Hill Seniors several times. You could include partners and/or some of the admin staff.

4. I could arrange a tour around our winery. That could also include the vineyard if the weather is good. Our tours normally include wine tasting and a simple meal of charcuterie and cheeses. If people want a more substantial sit down meal we ask The Pickled Pepper at Odiham to supply a type of superior ploughmans. They have an amazing selection of foods. The meal would be in our barrel room as we do not yet have a cellar door /restaurant but it can add to the atmosphere! Cost of a simple meal is about £6 and the superior meal is about £12. We would not charge for anything beyond that. (Hopefully, some may buy some wine!)

5 There is a hotel at Odiham called Bel and The Dragon which has a lovely snug with some easy chairs and holds about 8-10 people at a push. You can book the snug for no cost as long as you order something and they could be asked to supply some type of buffet food/meal. This might be more suitable if you wanted to plan an extra Trustees meeting in a different environment to the Community Centre rather than a simple get together. I often use this facility and did so just last Thursday evening with some others.

Norma