

Connect, discover & celebrate

Ledbury Food Group



Secretary's Report for year 2021/22

Our activities were again limited as a result of Covid restrictions

Instead a major activity through 2021 was to continue to provide a Food Information Page on our website. This provided a listing of what local producers and retailers are doing in terms of local deliveries, call and collect, food takeaways, outdoor eating etc. to help people – and businesses - to get through the pandemic safely.

The only event possible was the 2022 Ledbury Big Breakfast originally planned for late January, but postponed because of the high incidence of Covid cases until 11th to 13th March. 20 venues took part including 6 for the first time. Most reported good demand for their varied and sometimes sumptuous breakfast offerings.

We were joined for breakfast on the Friday by the then High Sheriff of Herefordshire, Jo Hilditch, the Chair of Herefordshire Council, Cllr Sebastian Bowen, the Deputy Town Mayor and the Town Clerk.

We were able to start planning for the 2022 Ledbury Celebration in Spring 2022 following the award of funding from the Herefordshire Council Festivals and Events Discretionary Grant. This grant scheme supported events impacted by Covid-19 and was funded by the Additional Restrictions Grant provided by the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy.

We are pleased to say that this activity and funding led to a successful Ledbury Celebration food festival and much more on the last day of the Ledbury Poetry Festival on Sunday 10th July.

Thanks to all of you who have continued to support local producers, local retailers and local hospitality businesses through this time. It is encouraging to see how well these businesses have coped and survived, and that new businesses have emerged on the local food scene.

We held a delayed Annual General Meeting for 2020/21 on Monday 18th October 2021 at which the following were confirmed as committee members for 2021/22.

- Griff Holliday - Secretary
- David McCauley - Treasurer
- Jackie Denman
- Nina Shields

- Caroline Handley
- Nick Morris
- John Davenport
- Graham Wood.

The role of Chairman was left unfilled and remained so.

Our continuing thanks go to David Hewitt for administering and maintaining our website at a time when it has been more used than ever.

Thanks also to Liz Whattler who continues to supply topical recipes to our monthly website feature – these remain popular.

Griff Holliday – Secretary

22 July 2022