

Boldon & District u3a
Minutes of Committee Meeting
10.30am 14th February 2022

Present. Chair P Devenport (PD) P Winfield (PW)
G Cucchi (GC) S Soulsby (SS) Jim Jordan (JJ): Cathy Jordan (CJ)
K Blyth (KB)

S Miller (SM), B Combes (BC) Observers

1. Apologies for Absence – None

Ann Telling (AT) attended the meeting to provide an overview of a proposed Beauty Night on 23rd March. It was agreed that this should be offered to members at £15 per ticket, 30 tickets available.

Agreed- PD to send email to members re this and other agreed events, payment Monday 21st February.

There was also a discussion about options for a Beaujolais evening and Real Ale event

AT left the meeting.

2. Minutes Agreed

Minutes of the meeting held on 10th January 2022 were agreed as a correct record.

3. Matters Arising

1) Projector- GC had investigated options- **Decision required re purchase**

2) Technology Group- Option to some workshops on a Thursday morning

4. Treasurers Report

Banking

PW reported the social account is now closed & funds transferred into main account, thus minimising bank charges

Charges are still levied however and are not insubstantial

GW advised she had looked into Santander as an option- no bank charges would be applied.

The committee discussed the suitability of the account given the intention to move to internet banking, location of branches
PD proposed that the u3a account with HSBC be closed and an internet account opened- Agreed

Committee Member Roles

A discussion took place re committee member roles with a financial element to them.

PW stepping down from the Treasurer role imminently. BC agreed to be proposed for this role.

A discussion also took place regarding the recent resignation of DW as Business Secretary. SM agreed to be proposed for this role.

3 Signatories would be required for the account: PD, GC & BC

Membership Fee

Discussion took place re the fee for 2022/2023. It was agreed to maintain the fee at £10

Equipment Purchases

In addition to the purchase of a projector in matters arising, purchased of other items required were agreed, namely printers for BC and Business Secretary and a licence for Microsoft.

PW left the meeting after delivery of his report

5. Vice Chair Report

PD reported that venues had been provided with insurance details where they required them.

Analysis of member attendance was ongoing in order to assess how the offer provided could be improved.

Software has been updated on IT equipment.

A discussion took place about requests for approval for trips. **It was agreed that that the trip coordinator Kath Lodge did not need to seek permission at committee meetings, only to inform the committee.**

A discussion took place on recent government announcements re relaxation of covid restrictions. **It was agreed that all members, vaccinated or unvaccinated would be advised to wear a mask if**

attending events and be requested not to attend if experiencing any covid symptoms. Precautions would continue at venues re room ventilation.

6. Membership Report

GC advised there are currently 245 members.

7. Group Leader Report

SS advised there are 11 groups running

There are 3 new groups: Flower Arranging, Line Dancing & Art Appreciation

French Conversation has paused

The Creative Writing Group is small with 3 members

Wearmouth Bridge Beginners (not u3a) is an option for people who want to get some experience

Thursday Walking Group will need a new leader by the summer when the current leader will be stepping down

Wine Tasting Group numbers are not sufficient to make it viable

A discussion took place about the provision of one-off activities as an alternative to ongoing groups e.g.

Music Appreciation (March?)

Craft Group (Easter?)

Ceramics

Choir- It is hoped to restart the choir soon. High level of interest. JJ has found contact details for a possible professional choir leader. **JJ will make contact re availability, costs etc.**

8. Speaker Update

KB advised of details of next speaker. Will require laptop.

Speakers are booked in up till September. Will need to fill the schedule. A discussion took place re costs. It was agreed that fees should be capped at around £60.

9. Beacon Update

PD advised there is a new help function & training videos.

Website needs to be updated to reflect current groups.

10. AOB

Refs for next general meeting: Coffee & Tea JJ, Cups SS, Biscuits GC

Really Useful Group (RUG)
SS volunteered to help
RUG would be needed to help with teas & coffees.

PD noted that many u3a publish minutes of committee meetings on their web site. **It was agreed we would do the same once the minutes had been approved.**

Date and Time of Next Meeting
10.30 am Monday 14th March 2022