

BOLDON AND DISTRICT u3a

Minutes of Committee Meeting 9th January 2023

Apologies for absence. None.

Present. Chair P Devenport (PD) G Cucchi (GC) S Soulsby (SS)
Sheila Miller (SM) Bill Coombs (BC) J Jordan (JJ) C Jordan (CJ)

1. **Minutes of previous meeting.** No minutes were available for November meeting BC will circulate by email. December 2022 minutes approved. GC to take minutes for this meeting.
2. **Matters arising.** It was agreed to re-book Tony and Sarah for this years Christmas party.
3. **Chairs report.** PD

It was understandable given the snow, but never the less disappointing that fewer than 40 attended the Christmas party, however I think we would have struggled to cope with a full turn out. Everyone enjoyed the morning and I have received thanks for all our hard work. It was noted that everyone pitched in to help clean up, to me that indicates a willingness to help but a disinclination to commit on a regular basis. Tony and Sara rose above the numbers and provided great entertainment.

No money was collected at the Art Appreciation group in December as there was no central heating (although oil heaters were provided) in the church and we were not charged..

The insurance cover note for 2023 has been received and a copy passed to All Saints, other venues may wish to see it. I also received notification that the cost of TAM postage will increase from £3.35 to £3.60 from April 2023, not sure how many copies we currently request.

There are also ongoing national talks which with implications for us as we would have to change the constitution, more on this as it happens. The annual return to the charity commission is still outstanding, Denise Walter will help with this. PD informed us that she is not going to stand for chairman at the AGM. She is going to send a email to members to try and get more committee members and a new

chairman. SS Most of the committee have been in post for 3 years which is the maximum allowed. PD warned if no one is prepared to join the committee the Boldon branch will close.

4. **Treasurer's Report.** BC Despite part funding the Christmas party we still have a healthy bank balance of £7785 although there is about £850 to be paid out including the yearly payment for the use of Beacon. PD said at a chairmans meeting before Christmas one of the chairs said their treasurer gave them a memory stick every month with the up to date accounts so that they always had a backup and asked BC to email the accounts to her each month.
5. **Membership report.** GC informed us that we had no new members, the total remains 214.
6. **Group Report.** SS

The Art Appreciation Group met on the Tuesday before Christmas and enjoyed an informative talk by Jean Stokes re The Wise Men.

As the meeting was opened up to all members 22 people supported the meeting.

A successful Christmas Party was held by the Contemporary Music group on 5th December. Approx 50 members attended and thoroughly enjoyed the afternoon.

The flower arranging group completed their Christmas Arrangements on Friday 9th December and ended the year with a lunch prepared by Maureen.

The Midweek walkers met for their Christmas lunch at Red Meze in Newcastle. The walking group have plans for walks in January and February there is a core of 10 to 12 walkers and it is been kept going. The rail group are having their Christmas lunch this week as it was cancelled before Christmas due to the rail strikes. SS is also updating the group members on Beacon and is still waiting for some information.

7. **Speakers Report.** SM Bernard Hope has confirmed for next weeks talk. The speaker for February has cancelled but GC has arranged for Jess Jones to give a

talk on the benefits of exercising using weights for older people with idea of starting a new group

8. **Website report** PD has reinstated most of the website. The links to the photography and music pages are broken and as she does not have the original data she can't fix them. Jim will fix the photography link when he returns from his holiday but Adam has been asked but has not fixed it so far. She has asked Doug Burn to send the info for her to update the Art and Painting group. SS is going to email all the group leaders and ask them to update their introductions

9. **Facebook Report.** There are 57 members. Its mainly just committee who post and Stephanie Yearshire with her foodie news

10. **Beacon Update.** PD No issues.

11. **AOB.** Some members have complained about missing one-off events and trips. We will have a list of up coming events on the u3a notice board in All Saints Church hall. PD still needs a photo and bios from JJ and CJ. JJ is going to get a start date for the singing group and give a demo at the next monthly meeting.

12 **Date and Time of next Meeting**

10.30 13th February 2023.