

## **BOLDON AND DISTRICT u3a COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Monday 14th August 2023 at 10,30am Boldon**

Present Chair Shirley Walkinshaw (SW) Pat Devenport (PD) Sheila Miller (SM) Sue Soulsby (SS). Gillian Cucchi (GC) Bill Coombs (BC). Joanne Frankie (JK). anne Witherington (AW). Pam Marley (PM). Jim Jordan (JJ). Cath Jordan (CJ)

1. Apologies for absence  
Sue Masters

2. Minutes of previous meeting 10th July 2023  
Agreed

3. Matters arising  
No matters arising

4. Chair report  
I'm not sure I should say this but I may have just cracked sending off the various emails to the members and the committee with generous help from Gillian Cucchi With thanks.

The National U3A headquarters have been busy sending information from them to us. Creative writing information sent to all members. Sent to all committee members a document with generous suggestions how to attract more U3A members and increase our groups. Pat states we have no plans for a U3A week.

SW did not attend Regional or National meetings concentrating on Boldon & Cleadon u3a.

Liz Thackray from the U3A trust is advertising for a trustee to join their team. This is open to all U3A members. This email was posted to all members on 4th August 2023. No enquiries yet from members.

5. Treasurers report  
Balance £4615.70.

6. Membership report  
There have been 4 new members this month making a total of 227

7. Group Report  
The following groups all chose NOT to meet during August: Art & Painting, Rail Enthusiasts, Scrabble & Music Appreciation.

The Enjoy Singing Group were unable to meet due to another booking in the hall. This group started meeting in Feb 2023 and has met 3/4 times with limited numbers. As a committee we need to review the viability of the group. It was AGREED to review in 3 months

Two members of the Photography group have had success with recent photographic competitions. One at National Level and one at Regional level. I am hoping to promote their success at Regional u3a level and within our own u3a.

One of our members has expressed an interest in having a Ceilidh group. She has passed on some contact details of people who could maybe help us but does not want to run the group.

The midweek walking group are now armed with emergency contact details and a what's app group to keep everyone informed. Thank you to Linda Snowden who helped to get that sorted.

The majority of groups would all welcome new members. Only Bridge and Contemporary Music are full but like all attendance fluctuates.

AW has proposed setting up a poetry group, using her home for the meeting. PD has proposed an IPAD group using Boldon Golf Club for the meeting.

8. Speakers report

August speaker will be Jim Frazer giving a talk on Arbeia and Hadrians Wall. Fee £50.00

9. Website report

I still have not done any work on the latest version of SitesWorks .If you spot any errors please let me know.

Fewer page hits this month but more than July last year

10. Facebook report

63 members - a few more people are starting to post and comment

11. Beacon Update

Happy to see how many people have been into Beacon to create their password (according to Audit trail) but there does not seem to be a way to count them

Newsletter- would appreciate some suggestions for content and still need mini profiles from new committee members.

It would be good to have everyone's photo on the u3a board at meetings

12 Any other business

Thanks to SM and GC for their excellent work preparing a new members welcome pack. A lot of work has been done comparing A4 and A5 size, together with the pros and cons of each.

Need further discussion on increasing membership and groups.

? Another recruitment table

Possible meet and greet person to give a personal approach

PD to write on local facebook pages about Boldon & Cleadon u3a inviting interested people to attend our general meetings.

13. Date and time of the next Committee Meeting- 10.30 Boldon Library on Monday 11th September 2023.