



Minutes of Committee Meeting

Time and Date:	10:00 – 11:30	18 th August 2020
Location:	Zoom	
Attendees:	Alwyn Foster, David Falkner, Rupert Williams, Alan Comerie,	Anna Moore, Christine Shepherd, Sue Hollings

Subject	Action
<p>1.0 Apologies & Welcome</p> <p>Apologies were received from Anne Hegarty, Caroline Roberts, and Elaine Bass.</p> <p>The meeting was held by Zoom Video Conferencing because of restrictions prohibiting meetings, imposed by the government due to the worldwide Coronavirus pandemic.</p>	
<p>2.0 Matters arising from the last meeting</p> <p>There were two items to address from the July minutes, Mirthy and the AGM. Mirthy is to be covered in the Speaker Finder's report in item 3 below and the AGM in item 7.</p>	
<p>3.0 Committee Reports</p> <p>3.1 Treasurer - Anne Hegarty had circulated the accounts to 31st July prior to the meeting. No queries were raised.</p> <p>3.2 Group Facilitator - David Falkner has written to all group coordinators encouraging them to restart activities wherever possible within government guidelines. See item 4 below.</p> <p>DF has been contacted by Richard Marson, who deals with Village Hall bookings, as he has been approached by someone who has expressed interest in using the hall when, in normal times, it would be in regular use by BJU3A. DF has contacted the coordinators of those groups to find out whether they are likely to recommence before the end of this year.</p> <p>Alan Comerie mentioned that he understood Richard was very disappointed at the lack of response to his notification that the</p>	



<p>Village Hall had reopened - even though that notification did not ask for a response. AC has since emailed Richard apologising for not replying and advising him that our normal monthly meetings are extremely unlikely to resume before Christmas.</p> <p>3.3 Membership - Caroline Roberts was unable to attend this meeting.</p> <p>3.4 Beacon - Anna Moore advised that work is continuing on the new version of Beacon, although it has been delayed by 9 months due to the Coronavirus pandemic restriction. When it is ready she will form a small team to review its functionality.</p> <p>3.5 Speaker Finder - Christine Shepherd confirmed that all speaker engagements have been cancelled up to Christmas. Two previously-booked speakers, Andrew Smart and Neil Jarvis, are willing to present their talks using Zoom, and Christine has arranged for those to take place in October and November respectively.</p> <p>She has investigated the online talks provided by Mirthy (www.mirthy.co.uk) and found that scheduled talks cost £50-£80.</p> <p>As there are commitments for the next three months with the AGM in September and two Zoom talks subsequently, no arrangements have been made with Mirthy.</p>	
<p>4.0 Response from Group Coordinators to DF's message encouraging groups to meet outside.</p> <p>There were only two responses, the most detailed being a commendable reply from Brenda Draper, who coordinates the photography and table tennis groups, and one of the gardening groups.</p>	
<p>5.0 Response from members to AC's email inviting them to watch Mirthy online talks.</p> <p>Disappointingly, despite asking all members to let Alan know if they watched the most recent Mirthy talk, no-one did.</p> <p>As we feel it is important to stay in touch with members and to encourage them to use alternatives to seeing a speaker in the Village Hall, AC agreed to email all members again, encouraging them to watch the Mirthy talk being held two days after this</p>	



<p>Committee meeting. That was done and about 10 members replied confirming they had registered or intended to. Several responses were received after the talk had been screened stating how much they had enjoyed it.</p>	
<p>6.0 Feedback from Notts Network meeting</p> <p>TAT propose to increase the capitation fee to £4 from April 2022 on the basis that this will help with more investment in technology and an increase in staff. A decision is to be made at its AGM on September 29th.</p> <p>TAT's view is that it is fair to pay for interest groups who wish to benefit from the purchase of a Zoom licence, as it is no different to some members taking advantage of attendance at open meetings whilst others never go.</p> <p>A study has been taking place looking at 45 case studies of U3As that have grown. There are 2 new national working groups. One is looking at the 'Here and now' and how we can help each other across the movement and the second one is looking at Recruitment.</p> <p>The age of the membership is going up and overall, the number of members is declining. There is little recruitment amongst folk who are newly retired. Ian McCannah said 20,000 members per year join through word of mouth. There is a diminished rate of new U3As and the 10-15% of members lost at renewal time is usually made up with new members.</p> <p>There are grants of £100 -£200 for Open days so that U3As can be promoted in the community.</p>	
<p>7.0 Annual General Meeting</p> <p>All members were formally notified 2nd July that due to the Covid-19 restrictions on meeting our AGM would be held September 8th 2020 via the video conferencing service, Zoom. Whilst the free version of Zoom allows for a maximum of 100 attendees, which should be sufficient, it imposes a 40-minute time limit, which may be restrictive, and does not allow participants to vote. Consequently it was agreed that we would upgrade to the lowest-cost paid for version to overcome these issues.</p>	



<p>Alan Comerie reported that he had spoken to the Secretary at Beeston U3A, which had held its AGM via zoom the previous week. Apparently it went better than they thought it might. They invited members to join a Zoom meeting the day before the AGM, solely for the purpose of seeing if they had any problems getting on the system, and they invited members to telephone if they had any problems. Two people were standing by their 'phones to give assistance. At the AGM itself, they had one telephone helper but no-one called in.</p> <p>The Chairman's and Treasurer's reports were sent out prior to the AGM, by both email and also in the post to their 40 members who aren't on email.</p> <p>The AGM was quorate. 95 out of 900 members attended, and their constitution requires a minimum of only 10%. (Our constitution requires a minimum of 83, 20% of our 415 membership).</p> <p>All members were muted except for the Chairman and Treasurer. Any questions should have been submitted prior to the AGM, but members could use Zoom's "Chat" feature if they wished.</p> <p>Beeston subscribed to the £14.39 per month paid for version of Zoom as a one-off so that they could take advantage of the Poll (voting) feature. They did not hold two identical polls where there were two members in the same household; it wasn't necessary to do so because the voting was overwhelmingly in favour.</p> <p>The only thing Beeston would do differently if they had to use Zoom again for an AGM would be to put the names of the proposed new committee members on screen instead of reading them out.</p> <p>The Chairman's and Treasurer's reports could be uploaded to the website prior to the meeting to save time, and several Committee members may be needed to assist.</p>	<p>AC</p>
<p>8.0 Any other business</p> <p>None</p>	
<p>9.0 Date of next meeting</p> <p>Tuesday 15th September 2020 at 10:00</p>	