



CALDICOT AND DISTRICT

Website: u3asites.org.uk/caldicot

Charity Number: 1071447

MINUTES of U3A CALDICOT COMMITTEE MEETING 24th August 2023 at 10.00pm CALDICOT RUGBY CLUB

1. Welcome by Linda Stewart

Present Rob Harry, Linda Stewart, Joy Ganesh, Jan Potter, Lyn Howells, Cindy McOwen, Glenice Dallow.

Apologies John Calvin Thomas, Betty Waite, Maurice Turner

Declaration of Interest None

2. Minutes of meeting 29th June 2023 read and approved by all present

3. Matters Arising 29th June 2023

National AGM Resolutions.

After much discussion it was agreed that Caldicot U3A would abstain from voting. It is felt that whilst the U3A in the South East England are thriving and working towards further expansion little seems to be offered to U3As outside that area who are struggling to survive. These areas are desperate for the marketing team to offer help to ensure these are supported if they are to survive and flourish. It is therefore felt that neither resolution would make any impact on Caldicot U3A in any way. Joy Ganesh proposed we abstain from voting, seconded Glenice Dallow. All in support

We note that whilst there is a budget breakdown on the website we feel it is not as detailed as we hoped.

4. Treasurers Report

Gift Aid . Following a report from the latest Finance News Extra from TAT which identified problematic issues with HMRC the Committee agreed that our u3a would not continue with its Gift Aid application in this financial year.

A licence meeting with The Methodist Church.

The Trustees had met with committee members from the church to discuss issues regarding Hall Hire and the costs related to Meetings and Interest group sessions.

The u3a had received information from the Church identifying an increase in Hall hire charges for different types of meetings and group sessions. eg from £16 to £18 an hour for group sessions and from £12 to £13.50 per hour for other meetings. All parties had agreed that the extra cost per session/meeting was reasonable. There was however more detailed discussion regarding the cost of hiring the whole church area for major events like our Open day ,Annual AGM.and any others as required. However this problem was resolved quite quickly because we agreed that both the church and u3a would be flexible in their arrangements and costs depending upon the event. Eg cost could range from £128 to £72 for such events. Similarly we also agreed on flexibility with regard to setting up and taking time for events . These arrangements were geared around the fact that we would not require the aid of a caretaker to prepare

It had proved to be a very useful meeting and exchange of information regarding each of our financial responsibilities and planning. The new Licence will commence in Sept 2023.

5. Membership Report

At the moment membership stands at 351. However I am awaiting the return of another 6 forms which have been requested and sent out. I have now managed to give all cards except for 1- Lilian Selmes to members or convenors. My thanks goes to Lyn Howells for her foot work in delivering many of them. If the forms are returned our associate members will increase as most enquires come from other U3As but at the moment they stand at around 10 or so and about 18 Honorary. Do we receive all the associate £5 ?Perhaps at our open day this year we can make a big play on there is no lower age limit for membership of the U3A. We must pick up younger members and perhaps our open day evaluation should centre not just on how well it went for current members but was it welcoming to younger people.

6.Group News

Linda gave out a copy of the new members booklet. Glenice commented on how few convenors actually contributed to it. However the booklet is to be commended as committee members felt it was very good. Thanks goes to Linda. This will be given to new members at open day. Joy asked if we could also have a few in a larger format for any who have sight impairment. Next convenors meeting September 7th.

7 Website/ Newsletter

All printing ready.

8 Open Day

Linda asked for permission to buy bunting to go on the gazebo. Permission given. Glenice will concentrate on the open day at the Convenors meeting. A plan was drawn up as to where each group will have their table. Committee and those first manning group tables asked to be there at 9am. Doors not opened until 10am. Dignatories have been already invited.

9 Venues (covered in Treasurers report)

10 AOB There has been a request from U3A National for the chairperson to visit branches in South Wales area. Linda handed out information on the slots that have already been taken by branches. Chepstow have an afternoon slot on Thursday 5th October so as there is a convenors meeting of Caldicot U3A that morning it was proposed that the morning slot for a chairperson visit be offered by Caldicot. Linda stressed however that the chairperson wishes to meet with members so after discussion the convenors meeting will be held at a different time and that morning- 5th October, there will be a coffee morning and Linda asked that as many members as possible be encouraged to be present to meet and talk with the chairperson. Linda will inform SWN.

B. The daughter of Myra Winter, Mrs Christine Owen, is making a donation of £500 in her memory. Discussion followed as to how this money be best spent to honour Myra. It was agreed to speak with the Handicraft group which Myra attended regularly for their ideas.

Meeting Closed 12am

Next Meeting 28th September

Convenors Meeting September 7th

Open day September 9th