

CALDICOT AND DISTRICT

Website: u3asites.org.uk/caldicot

Charity Number: 1071447

MINUTES of U3A CALDICOT COMMITTEE MEETING 23rd November 2023 at 10.00pm CALDICOT RUGBY CLUB

1. Welcome by Linda Stewart- Chairperson

Present Rob Harry, Linda Stewart, Joy Ganesh, Jan Potter, Lyn Howells, Cindy McOwen, Maurice Turner, Glenice Dallow, John Calvin Thomas.

2. Minutes of Last Meeting

Accepted as a true record of meeting October 26th 2023

3. Matters arising- None

4. Treasurers Report- Rob Harry.

After making an application to Barclays Bank statements are now finally coming in last day of month. Reserve account stands at £3083 and business account at £3965. However bigger bills will no doubt be presented shortly eg hiring fees Methodist church, Christmas party expenses etc. At the moment accounts are healthy.

The finance group has been reconvened. Agreed decisions must come through the committee. It has looked at the current system and the historical context. The Treasurer is mindful of the different ways of managing finance. With this in mind there is a desire to further explore Beacon and with advice from the South Wales area and Derek Shotton (Chepstow) a date of 11th December has been offered with Derek in order to further understanding of its uses. There will be a charge of £1 per person should it be adopted. Beacon is an on line management system designed by u3as, for u3as. It provides a simple interface for managing members, groups and finances. Glenice added that the Treasurers role is becoming ever more complex. 8 members will be able to attend- some committee members and the finance group (committee members plus Sheila and Paul) Car sharing to be arranged.

5. Group News- Glenice Dallow

The drama group will close at the end of November. Only 3 are U3A members. The group will continue affiliated to Magor Players. We will need to update the welcome pack to ensure it is upto date. Linda has included a small note to ensure this. The group has said it will fulfil any commitments. Treasurer is to be notified of U3A assets the drama group holds.

There have been some complaints from groups re their dealings with Barclays Bank. Computers have got some new members. Bridge and Welsh doing well.

6. Membership report November 2023- Joy Ganesh

At the moment membership stands at 375. That is an increase of 12 members in two months. I have now managed to give most cards, receipts and membership packs to

these members but still have a few outstanding. Many do not commit to any particular group. An updated membership list is available which can be emailed to committee members who need one. Fees are now reduced to £5 as we are over year mid point. We have one anomaly on our membership form in that birthdates are no longer there. I believe this was because of objections from members. If we are to continue sending cards we would need to go to convenors and ask them to notify committee of the important date for member concerned ie important birthday, Anniversary etc.

7. Facebook- John Calvin Thomas

107 members accessing facebook. Not many groups are putting information on it. Linda asked if photos could be sent to Ann. John asked if that request could go to convenors meeting.

Convenors are to check if details are correct on website.

8. Coffee Morning- Cindy and Lyn

These continue to be successful and the larger room at the methodist is to be trialed as this should give more room.

9. South Wales Network/ Eisteddfod

This is to be held in Pontypridd 2024 and wish to ask for donations and welsh members to man the stall. It was felt this could not be supported.

10. Betty Waite who has been a long standing member of the committee has stood down. She was the welfare secretary.

Birthdates no longer on application form . Need to ask at the Convenors meeting re informing a committee member of important birthdays e.g 80/90 birthdays. Important anniversaries.

11. AOB Handicraft have £565 to donate to a defibrulator for Caldicot. This generated lots of discussion and there was much concern over maintenance. We need to contact the Council about this before we go any further with this.

Date of next meeting 18th January 2024