

**Cestria u3a at Chester-le-Street**  
**Committee Meeting No.90 held on Wednesday 18th October 2023 in the Eardulph Room at**  
**the Parish Centre, Chester le Street.**

**Those present:** Robert Berry - Chairman, Tony Morrell, Margaret Pescod, Kathleen Atkinson, Margaret Chilver, Angela Hamilton, Anne Lanigan, Christine Logan, Pat Rule, Steve Willan.  
Mike Parker – Guest.

**Apologies for Absence:** Margaret Bozic, Rachel Burton, Maureen Weston.

**Minutes of Last Meeting:**

- Approved and signed off by Robert Berry.

**Matters arising from minutes not otherwise on the agenda:**

- None.

**Review of GDPR:**

- No issues arising.

**Review of Monthly Attendance:**

- Attendance remaining stable at 31% of membership.
- Pre-Covid attendance at monthly meeting ~ 50%.
- Reasons could be due to age, health, transport.
- Also a reduction in group attendance.

**Chairman's Report:**

- Coffee morning at Cornerstones in September had only limited success. About 25 people attended with no potential new members coming forward. Costs £85.
- The next one will be in June 2024 and will remain free entry.
- The next coffee morning will have a "focus" and also try to attract new members.
- Succession Planning: 5 key roles identified.
  - Chair, Treasurer, Secretary, Membership and Speaker Secretaries
- Suggest we try to recruit people to assist in these roles and stand in when necessary.
- Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Policy will be introduced to the Cestria u3a portfolio of procedures. Voted in by 4 votes to 3. TAT policy will be reviewed and sent to committee for discussion and approval.

**R.B.**

**Treasurer's Report:**

- The bank balance belonging to u3a at 4th October is £2,748. Budgeted balance at 31st December is £4276.
- Budget 2024:
  - No increase in membership fees with a membership at about 200.
  - Pro-rata membership fees will be voted on at Feb 2024 A.G.M. i.e. half price from 1st July.
  - Monthly meeting fees will go back to £2.
  - Room fees increased by 5%.
  - Groups will remain subsidised.
  - Unknown increases are Capitation Fees, Beacon Costs and Magazine Subscription.
  - Based on current membership a small deficit of ~ £300 is predicted.

**Secretary's Report:**

- 2024 Membership renewal emails/letters to go out at the start of November.
- Email members to confirm Third Age Matters Magazine subscription. **M.A.P.**
- A.G.M. documents to go early December.
- Send Nomination Papers to committee immediately.

**Group Coordinators Report:**

- All but two groups visited.
- Continues to attend Group Coordinators Zoom meetings.
- Next group leaders meeting 21st November.
- New display boards purchased.
- Took part in Beacon training.
- Photography group now closed due to lack of members.
- Bridge group of hold until the New Year.

**Membership Secretary's Report:**

- Currently 204 members.
- 2 on waiting list.
- There have been 21 new members in 2023.
- Welcome team up and running.

**Speaker Secretary's Report:**

- Meet with AH and MW to start the 2024 list.
- 50% of speakers booked.
- Recommended to contact: The Peoples Kitchen. The Land of Oak and Iron and Beekeepers.

**Website Administrator's Report:**

- Recommends the move to SiteWorks website platform as the current Site Builder will cease to be supported.
- Terms and conditions for use have not yet been published.
- It's expected there will be a charge for using this platform going forward, but costs will have to be monitored before committing.
- Implementation dates not yet know, but we will be added to a migration schedule when current data will be migrated across to the new system.
- Set up a Sub-Committee or Working party to oversee the project. R.B. has agreed to help.

**A.O.B.:**

Events: No actions.

First Aid: M.C. has stepped down as our nominated first aider and A.H. has volunteered to take her place.

Meeting closed at 11.58 am.

**Next meeting 10.00am Wednesday 17th January 2024 in the Eardulph Room at the Parish Centre, Chester le Street.**

Signed: -----

Dated: -----