

## Minutes of committee meeting held via Zoom at 3.30pm on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2022

### PRESENT:

Tony Henry, Chair; Pam Campbell, Business secretary ; Lesley Patterson, Treasurer; Averil Fendley, Membership secretary; John Rutherford, Group Convenor Co-ordinator; Pete Burrow, Social Secretary

- **Apologies**

None. All committee present.

- **Minutes of last meeting**

Accepted as a true record.

- **Matters Arising**

Nil

- **Social Activities**

Pete spoke about 2 new events which he thought may be attractive to members – Vivaldi's The Four Seasons at The Sage in April, and "The Play That Goes Wrong" in June (Theatre Royal). The committee agreed that these were likely to be appealing to the membership so Pete would send out a message via email asking people to contact him if interested. Pete also voiced the need for a Social Activities committee to share ideas with and also the need for a further person to be a mini-bus driver.

Pete advised that there is now £1208 in the Social Events account, but this included some shows booked but where the theatre had not yet requested payment.

Dates for the Christmas Quiz were discussed and, this may be 9<sup>th</sup> December as long as it doesn't clash with other local events e.g. Rothbury film night

### Action:

- Pete to send details to Pam to include in the email reminder she was about to send out to all members advising them of this month's open meeting topic.
- Averil to send Pete dates for the Film night
- Pete to ask for volunteers for a social committee at AGM

- **Website**

There has been no response to the request for a webmaster. The importance of a good functioning website was agreed as this is likely to be the first port of call for any potential new members, (although less likely to be used by existing members). A website that is easy to update was paramount, and costs were to be obtained from professional sources to see if this was feasible for the way forward.

### Action:

Averil to ask Collie Dog Computers (in Rothbury) re whether they could create a website, or know anyone who could, and associated costs

Tony to ask at the monthly meeting if anyone knows someone who could create a new

website or if anyone is interested in taking on the role of webmaster

- **Membership**

The current membership is now 154 (down from approx. 174 pre-pandemic). Averil explained that although we had lost some members for various reasons there was a slow, steady trickle of new members coming through.

- **Completion of Monthly Meeting Calendar for 2022**

Tony had circulated some ideas for new speakers for 2023. December 2022 still has a vacant slot.

Concern was expressed re including something additional within the AGM as it was felt there was insufficient within the "business" section to occupy an hour.

**Action:** All to bring ideas/contact details for speakers for the remainder of this year and 2023 to next meeting

Lesley to ask the Buckleys if they would be available/willing to provide some musical entertainment at the AGM

Tony to think about giving a talk on Rearing a young Owl

- **Any Other Business**

Pam suggested sending out another questionnaire to members asking what sort of things they would want including for topics for the Monthly meeting to ensure we got a good variety that appealed to all. John suggested that the questionnaire could also ask if anyone was interested in resurrecting groups that had become dormant (e.g. the Vegetarian food group had recently ceased to function or pose suggestions for any new interest groups. The results of the questionnaire could be discussed and expanded on during the AGM.

Lesley queried whether Mike Black, who had initially agreed to take on the Treasurer role was still interested, as if he was they should be meeting to discuss the details of the role.

**Action:**

Pam to send a draft questionnaire to the committee for comment.

Averil to ask Mike Black re treasurer role and inform Lesley so she could set up a meeting with him

- **Date and Time of Next Meeting:**

Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March at 3.00pm via Zoom