

Minutes of committee meeting held on Tuesday 16th November 2021 at 4.00pm at the Chairman's house

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**

One action outstanding from October – Inventory of Possessions; Pam to obtain details relating to Projector that is Coquetdale u3a property

Tea & Coffee for monthly meetings is no longer an issue with Patsy Henry helping out and committee members stepping in to assist as required.

No further progress on finding a webmaster and the website remains sadly out of date.

Annual lecture – not possible to arrange this in time for 2021 but plans are now afoot to resume this in 2022 when a local archaeologist has been approached to deliver this.

Action: Pam to contact Ian Webb for details of projector in order to compile the requisite Inventory of Possessions

• **Monthly Meetings**

Speakers are now arranged up until the end of 2022. Some members had asked for hard copies of the speaker list; members are to be reminded that the list of speakers and dates are always on the desk at the entrance to Monthly meetings. They can also be circulated by email to members.

Action:

Pam to obtain list of speakers from Tony and email out to members prior to next month's (early) meeting

• **Membership Numbers**

Averil and Lesley confirmed that our paid membership now stands at 146: This was seen as very positive, considering the impact of the Covid pandemic. The numbers included approximately 12 new members. Some previous members (iro 25) had not sent fees for rejoining despite several reminders. In view of this it was agreed that they should be contacted and advised that they will no longer be considered members, but that they were very welcome to join again in the future. The membership list will then be recirculated.

Action: Averil to confirm the list of non-payers for 2021 with Pam .

Pam to email those members advising them that they would now have to rejoin as

they are no longer on the membership list.

Averil to circulate new membership list of 146 once email has gone out

- **Group Activity**

All groups were now reported as up and running again. There has been a change in Group convenors as follows:-

Art Appreciation group – Ian and Anne Webb have stepped down. New convenors are Geoff and Ros Hoskins and meetings are to be held in the Jubilee Hall.

Gardening group – new convenors are Christine Bell and Alison Poole

John has received a query as to whether anyone would be interested in setting up a Bridge group. Members to be asked.

Action: Pam to ask if anyone wishes to join a Bridge group when she emails out the details of the next Monthly Zoom meeting

- **Christmas Quiz**

Following the email that Pete had sent out (via TA Matters) he now has about 20 people signed up to attending at the Golf Club on Dec 10th. He is hoping for more. Pete circulated proposed buffet items and prices, all agreed these were appropriate and good value. He will put up a sign advising that the food cannot be guaranteed nut free as a disclaimer for any allergens. Averil and Lesley agreed to help out with the event.

Pete's schedule of (minimal) costs included printing from his printer and all agreed this should be paid. He was confident that a sum of £3 per head would cover all costs.

Members of the committee felt this may be lower than necessary but Pete pointed out that he wanted to attract people back this year and was therefore keen to keep costs as low as possible.

It was agreed that non-members can be invited to the U3A quiz.

- **Any Other Business**

Frequency of committee meetings were discussed and it was agreed that the next meeting would be held in 3 months by Zoom, as these were preferable in potential bad weather over the winter.

Averil raised an issue that her email address is on the website. However, as she is happy about this she is content for it to remain.

Expenses for speakers were discussed as this month's speaker (Fran) had asked for expenses to be given to the Red Cross. The Treasurer explained that we cannot donate directly to a Charity but that she would contact Fran and arrange that we could forward payment to her that she could then divert to the Red Cross.

Appropriate sums were discussed and £30 was agreed on.

Pete advised that at the latest social event to the Simon and Garfunkel event 2 people didn't turn up on the night. This had caused him some anxiety and it was agreed that it was appropriate at future social events for him to ask people to contact him if they were not going to attend. In addition 2 members had taken advantage of tickets that had become spare at the last minute and they had not paid the full price (paid £20 instead of £23). He was concerned that the inference was, because they had not used the Minibus they felt they could pay less than the price quoted. All agreed that the price should be a fixed price, regardless of whether members chose not to use the minibus, as otherwise costs could become very complex and always changing.

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

Tuesday 15th February at 3.30pm via Zoom