

DARLINGTON U3A
COMMITTEE MEETING

Date: 30th June 2023

Time: 10.30 am

Place: Bannatyne's Hotel (Library)

Present: Kathy LeRoy (Chairman) Victoria Laing, Joyce Spanswick, Ken Gray, Sue Murton, Linda Mellis (Sec.)

Apologies: Tom Vout

1. The meeting was opened by the Chairman, Kathy LeRoy.
2. Attendance and Apologies: see above.
3. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and agreed.
Proposed by: Ken Seconded by: Joyce
4. Matters Arising:
10b) Victoria will check out 'Potter's Holiday's' at a later date.
5. Progress Report: Treasurer
Finances are in good order.
Ken has had communication re: Charity Commission and will deal with this asap.
The Third Age Trust has requested an update on our Third Age Matters mailing list. Ken will investigate. Committee will then decide how many copies we should buy.
6. Progress Report: Membership Secretary
Sue reported that we now have 152 paid-up members, with a further 6 potential members who have visited groups and will join at the reduced rate.
There were 61 attendees at the last monthly meeting which is much fewer than the numbers we used to have pre-pandemic. Committee have tried various avenues to increase attendance.
Sue suggested writing a piece for *One Darlington* which Victoria volunteered to do.
Darlington Borough Council is holding a *Gold Tea Dance* in the Market Square on 20th July and we will again have a publicity stand.
Some members are unable to attend various meetings through incapacity. Committee again discussed allowing carers to bring them without themselves having to pay. We will revisit this at a later meeting.
7. Progress Report: Project and Development Lead:
Victoria reminded us that all u3a websites 'crashed' in December last year. Following the repair, u3a have informed us that the platform will cease and we need to migrate to the new one – fully supported and at no cost to us. Victoria asked Mary if she is willing to continue as web manager – thankfully she is. A new name may be needed.
Victoria has had a request from a Northumbria University nursing student to ask for volunteers willing to help her More information at Main Meeting.
2 people have indicated their willingness to help lead walking groups. Both are keen to take the required training courses.
The Auckland project visit will take place in September – more details to follow.
8. Beacon Request:
We have been asked by Northern Region u3a to share our Committee details with them and potentially benefit from their resources. Linda will supply the information.
9. Any other Business:
 - a) Arriva buses.

Arriva have outlined a number of proposals they intend to implement which will have a huge impact on residents in Darlington and the surrounding area.
Sue has a survey/petition organised by Citizen's Advice Bureau which will be available for members to fill in at our Main Meeting.
Linda will write on behalf of Darlington u3a members to Darlington Borough Council, to highlight the difficulties such changes would have for many of our members.

The meeting closed at 11.45am

Signed.....

Date.....