

DARLINGTON U3A
COMMITTEE MEETING

Date: 27th October 2023
Time: 10.30 am
Place: Bannatyne's Hotel (Library)

Present: Kathy LeRoy (Chairman) Tom Vout, Victoria Laing, Sue Murton, Ken Gray, Joyce Spanswick
Linda Mellis (Sec.)
Apologies: None

1. The meeting was opened by the Chairman, Kathy LeRoy.
2. Attendance and Apologies: see above.
We were joined by Glenda Nelson, Susan Walker and Liz Hayman who are thinking of becoming Committee members and came to observe.
3. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and agreed.
Proposed by: Tom Seconded by: Sue
4. Matters Arising:
None that weren't being addressed.
5. Treasurer's Report:
Ken again assured us that finances are still in a good position. He's encouraged because one of our members has shown interest in becoming u3a Treasurer.
Linda confirmed that, all being well, Alan Pilkington will again audit our u3a Annual Accounts.
6. Progress Report: Membership Secretary.
Sue reported we now have 169 members.
40 attended Northern History, 71 attended the October Monthly meeting.
In order to differentiate between yearly Membership cards, which some people have difficulty with, Sue suggested changing colour each year. Committee agreed.
She also asked that a list of meeting dates and speakers be given to new members – also agreed.
7. Progress Report Project and Development Lead
Lunch Group: 30 attended Tre Amici and thoroughly enjoyed it. 29 have already booked for The Oven next month so it's going really well.
We still don't have any progress with the walking group.
Victoria has already booked Speakers for each of next year's Monthly meetings and 2 trips (Harrogate Flower Show and Kinren) are now booked as well.
8. Nomination Forms for Committee
Nominations for our new Committee need to be submitted to Linda (Secretary) prior to 31st December 2023. She brought forms with her so that Committee members were fully aware of what is needed.
9. Northern Region u3a
Cecilia Coulson, from Northern Region, emailed to show her concern and offer support to help ensure our u3a continues. Her offer was well received, and Victoria will contact her.
10. Charity Commission
Linda has completed our returns to the Charity Commission.
11. Christmas Celebrations

60 people have so far booked to attend our Christmas Lunch celebrations at the Dolphin Centre on 1st December 2023. Victoria asked Committee to determine the 'Welcome Drink' offered to guests. After consultation with Ken re: our finances, Committee agreed Kir Royale and a non-alcoholic alternative would be perfect.

Sue has bought and wrapped numerous gifts and has already organised entertainment.

12. Any Other Business

A) Although Tom is resigning from the Committee, thankfully Aileen (Vout) will continue as Welfare Secretary.

b) Some groups are beginning to lose their viability. Joyce is concerned that Classical Music is not well attended. Tai Chi and Mah Jong currently have few attendees as well. These groups may need to be reviewed in the new year.

The meeting closed at 11.55am

Signed.....

Date.....