

**MINUTES OF THE DUKERIES 3RD AGE COMMITTEE MEETING  
MONDAY 9 MARCH 2020 AT 2PM AT THE HOP POLE OLLERTON**

PRESENT:	Marie Bartle (Membership Secretary)
Sheila Reed (Chair)	Richard Titmuss (Treasurer)
Pam Hardwick (Secretary)	Margaret Titmuss (Refreshments)
Christine Yates (Group Co-ordinator)	Ann Street (Speaker Finder)

**1. WELCOME/APOLOGIES**

Sheila welcomed the committee members to the meeting. Apologies were accepted from Leslye Henstock (Deputy Chair) and Val Saunders (Minute Taker).

**2. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**

Pam proposed that the minutes of 10 February 2020 were accepted, seconded by Christine and Sheila signed them as correct.

**3. MATTERS ARISING**

The Hop Pole has re-opened and the committee has been able to resume meeting there. The cost of the room remains at £10 including refreshments. Before the re-opening the other venues mentioned in the February minutes had been checked and found mostly to be unsuitable either because of cost or room availability.

**4. REPORT FROM THE CHAIR**

Sheila outlined the Government's position regarding the coronavirus outbreak. As of the date of the committee meeting, there was no advice to cancel public gatherings. There was a discussion on how best to proceed, given that our members are drawn from the older population and could have underlying health problems which could render them more susceptible to the virus. Until further advice from the Government is received, it was decided to go ahead with the open meeting on 16 March 2020. John Harris will be asked to send an email out to members suggesting that if they have a cough or cold or any health concerns at all, then they should not attend. Also any committee member who feels they should not attend will be fully supported in their decision by the other committee members. Pam has information from U3A head office which she will put on the notice board. Christine suggested that meeters and greeters should have hand gel or wipes. Committee members were asked to bring some to the open meeting for people to use.

**5. SECRETARY'S REPORT**

Pam has sent any information she has received to the relevant committee members and group leaders.

**6. TREASURER'S REPORT**

Richard mentioned that the funds in the Outings group were remaining until Leslye heard if the outings will be cancelled owing to the coronavirus outbreak. If that happens, then refunds will be made to members. He also mentioned that the annual payment to Head Office of £3.50 per member will be made in April after the invoice is received.

**7. MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY**

Marie reported that the membership stands at 142. 57 attended the February meeting (40%). She advised that Ann Piper will not be renewing her membership in May so as to move to Retford U3A. Ann made the members' badges, so Marie will ask her for the template and information on how she made the badges and pass on these details to Sheila. Badges often go missing so Sheila will remind members to hand them in after each monthly meeting.

**8. GROUP CO-ORDINATOR'S REPORT**

Christine advised that the Mahjong group will not be returning to the Hop Pole but will use the Jubilee Hall. The Pub Games group has decided to meet at the home of John Offen rather than return to the Hop Pole.

OPEN MEETING - Preparations are up to date with all group leaders except for Birdwatching and Pathfinders attending. Christine is waiting to see if a representative for these groups will be coming. There is a sandwich board belonging to the Jubilee Hall which we can use providing we do not remove any existing posters on it. Christine will liaise with John Harris to attach an Open Meeting poster on to the board. He has put posters up in Ollerton. Sheila has put posters up in shops and pubs in Edwinstowe and is waiting to hear from the practice manager if the doctor's surgery will accept one. Margaret confirmed that refreshments will be available from 12.30 to 2.30.

U3A DAY 3 JUNE 2020 - Sheila has written to Ollerton Tesco's community co-ordinator asking if Dukeries U3A can have a promotional stall near the store entrance and is waiting for a reply.

JUBILEE HALL OPEN EVENING - Christine reported that the event held to showcase Jubilee Hall users on 2 March was poorly attended, with only Dukeries U3A and the woodturning group attending. No dignitaries, press or public turned up and it was felt by the committee that the event had been misrepresented to them. This was a shame as John Harris and Jean Parry-Williams had made a special effort to be there with a display.

#### 9. SOCIAL COMMITTEE UPDATE

There will be a St George's Day party at the Jubilee Hall on Saturday 25 April 2020. Christine said they had budgeted for up to 60 people. The cost will be £10 for members and £13 for non members, tickets will be on sale from the March meeting. John Harris and Jean Perry-Williams had organised flags. Christine will check the caterer's and hall's cancellation policy in case the event has to be cancelled owing to the coronavirus.

#### 10. SPEAKER FINDER'S REPORT

Ann reported that speakers have been booked up to June 2021.

#### 11. HEALTH AND SAFETY

The Jubilee Hall fire doors have been repaired. We will need to remember to use them only in an emergency. The ladies' WC has been repaired, however the disabled WC is awaiting repair.

#### 12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Norah Staley has sent a suggestion for group leaders to do a short write up of their activities, with perhaps some accompanying photos (not showing people's faces) which could be included in the U3A report in the local press. For example Creative Writing could submit a poem, the Sewing group could show their handiwork and the Watercolour group could show their painting. Hopefully this would attract attention from potential members. Sheila will announce this idea to group leaders at the April meeting.

Christine advised that Beryl Lee was waiting for an operation and has already got someone to cover for her at the open meeting. A suitable card will be sent to her after her operation.

Sheila checked that the lower age limit for U3A was 50 and not in full time employment.

Marie asked for the committee nomination box and nomination forms are put out from the March meeting. Meanwhile the committee was asked to think of any members who might consider joining the committee.

Publicity material can be ordered to download for free from National U3A. This includes a banner which can be taken to a professional printer to print on to plastic or material. Sheila has obtained some booklets and cards with her contact details ready for the March open meeting.

#### 13. NEXT MEETING

Note the change of day owing to Easter - Tuesday 14 April 2020 at 2.pm at the Hop Pole.

Sheila thanked the committee for attending and closed the meeting at 3.35pm.