

**MINUTES OF THE DUKERIES THIRD AGE GROUP COMMITTEE MEETING ON
MONDAY, 8TH NOVEMBER 2021, BY ZOOM**

PRESENT:	
Leslye Henstock	Chair
Pam Hardwick	Group Secretary/Deputy Chair
Chris Neighbour	Treasurer
Ann Street	Co-ordinator of Guest Speakers Marketing, Advertising and Website
Marie Bartle	Greeter at Meetings
John Harris	Newsletter Editor
Wendy Neighbour	Membership Manager
Christine Yates	Co-ordinator of Group Activities
Jane Young	Co-ordinator of Group Activities
Valerie Saunders	Minuting Secretary at meetings

1. INTRODUCTION

Leslye welcomed everyone to the Meeting.

There were no alterations to the minutes of the Committee Meeting on 11th October. Chris proposed that the minutes be accepted, Christine seconded and Leslye signed the minutes as correct. Apologies were accepted from Nick Mason.

Report from the Jubilee Hall Committee

Leslye had asked the Jubilee Hall Committee to reduce the hire charge for the Jubilee Hall for the last Members' Meeting as the toilets were not operational and there was no heating. They agreed to reduce the fee but said that the toilet situation was due to a sewage blockage outside the Jubilee Hall and was therefore not under their control. They did however agree to reduce the hire charge and to ensure that the heating is turned on in good time for the meetings.

The Jubilee Hall Committee asked that when the Bar Room at Jubilee Hall is hired out to Du3a that the tables and chairs are stacked after each meeting.

The Jubilee Hall Committee are presently trying to raise funds for a defibrillator for the hall as the nearest one is at the other end of the village at the Hop Pole. As a charity, Du3a cannot donate to other charities but we would be prepared to have fund raising events to contribute towards this.

Notts Network

North Notts Network has invoiced £15 in respect of some Du3a Committee Members attending various virtual North Notts meetings.

Leslye asked the Committee which members had been attending the meetings. Chris said he had been invited to a Treasurers' Peer Group but had yet to be informed when the meetings were. Ann has been attending the Publicity Group each month and has also been involved in the Speaker Finder Group but this is only done by email. Pam has attended

some of the Secretaries' Peer Group meetings but commented that she was never sent the minutes of these meetings which she said was disappointing. She also commented that Du3a no longer seem to be receiving Notts Network News Bites.

John said that he had had trouble in the past sending the News Bites to Du3a members and would in future put the link in the Newsletter sent by email to members each month.

Leslye commented that she seemed to be receiving information from North Notts Network about various meetings which did not really concern her and just added to her workload. She asked that Committee members try to attend meetings that are specific to them and get others taken off lists that are not appropriate to them. It was agreed by the Committee that the £15 fee should be authorised.

Leslye reported that she has been asked by National to join a Group which will discuss policies, etc.

Community Meetings

Leslye commented that the Community Meetings she has attended are very useful.

Edwinstowe and Dukeries Lions are composed of 14 people who raise a large amount of money in the local area for charity. They will have Santa and his sleigh outside Tesco at Ollerton on 17th, 18th and 19th December and have appealed for help with the charity collection. Leslye will ask members whether they could spare a couple of hours on one of those days to help. An information sheet will be emailed to members before the next Members' Meeting.

At another meeting Leslye attended, there was a speaker representing "Easy Fund". The premise of the fund is that if Du3a sign up for membership and members of Du3a shop on line at any of thousands of companies who are part of the scheme, a tiny percentage of what they spend would go into Du3a coffers. Leslye asked the Committee whether they thought it was a good idea and, providing that any money coming back from the scheme is used for the benefit of members, they agreed that it was. Leslye will present a short power-point presentation at the next Members' Meeting which will explain the fund in more detail.

Mary and David Morris

Leslye said that she had received a lovely letter from Mary giving a huge "thank you" for the work done by the Committee in trying to keep the Du3a going during and after lockdown. She said that they hadn't been in the best of health in the last year (a card was sent to them) but they were feeling much better.

Leslye will pass the letter to John for publication in the next Newsletter.

2. SPENDING GRANT MONEY

Wendy gave details of the current situation of monies spent and what funding monies are left. These were as follows:

The RTC Fund

The £500 awarded has been spent and all Committee members involved have been reimbursed for their purchases. The money has been spent on a laptop for the Chairperson,

printing ink for newsletters, a laminator and paper/ink for advertising. Wendy will now send all receipts to the RTC fund and complete their evaluation form.

TNL Community Funding

The national Lottery funding of £500 needs to be spent before the end of November 2021. £325 has been put towards the laptop for the Chairperson. Ann is to spend the remaining £175 on a feather banner for Du3a and send the receipt to Wendy before the end of November. On receipt of this Wendy will send the receipt to TNL and complete the evaluation form.

Community Engagement – Newark and Sherwood District Council

The Newark and Sherwood funding of £500 is partially spent. £125 was spent on a laptop for the Membership Manager and £20 spent on a mobile phone for web site calls. The remainder of £355 is to be spent on advertising. This is to be decided. The monies for this funding have to be spent and then we will be reimbursed.

Andy Oxnard

Andy Oxnard's funding of £100 is still to be spent.

Membership Update

Wendy reported that the membership total now stands at 140. Two new members joined at the last Members' Meeting.

There is an issue that one, and possibly two, previous members have been attending a group meeting. Wendy will try to resolve this matter.

3. BRANDING, PUBLICITY, MARKETING

Ann attended the Publicity Meeting of North Notts Publicity Group on 15th October. There was a discussion concerning National Publicity week next year which takes place between the 18th and 23rd September and this will probably be the focus of future Publicity Group meetings for some time. Various ideas were floated including the North Notts Groups carrying a beacon across Nottinghamshire ending in the Market Square in Nottingham and a Flash mob event. The next meeting is on the 24th November.

Ann said that she had also been sent some interesting notes from Ravenshead U3A on how to conduct hybrid meetings – part on Zoom and part face-to-face.

Ann reported that she has continued to send articles to the local press, Facebook, etc. She said that she had a copy of the "News Journal" which had published photographs of some Du3a meetings. She has discovered that this Journal covers areas such as Clipstone, Blidworth and Warsop. She asked if she should add this publication to her monthly articles in the local newspapers. The Committee thought that this would be a good idea.

Ann also reported that the Edwinstowe Lions Christmas event has been oversubscribed for stalls and we will have to bear this in mind for next year.

4. TREASURER'S REPORT

Chris had already sent copies of the accounts for October to the Committee. The Current Account total was £3008.88 and the Social Account £1104.97. There were no queries from the Committee.

5. NOVEMBER MEMBERS' MEETING

Leslye led the discussion concerning the meeting next Monday. The schedule will be as follows:

- 12.00 Set-up
- 12.45 Doors open
- 13.15 Welcome and news
- 13.30 Speaker (45 minutes plus questions)
- 14.30 Refreshments
- 14.50ish Group Leaders, notices
- 15.25 Closing remarks
- Clear away

The hall is booked until 16.00.

Jean Parry-Williams, John and Marie will be Greeters. Marie will get out the badges.

Christine will deal with Group Leaders.

Ann will set up the equipment and look after the guest speaker.

John will set up the outside placard towards the end of this week and also set up the banners inside the hall on the day. Leslye has asked John to send email reminders to members about the Christmas Party tickets, the Speaker and the "Bring and Buy" table.

Pam will man the "Bring and Buy" table

Doreen Jackson, Val and Janice Cawkill will be on tea duty

6. CHRISTMAS PARTY ON 20TH DECEMBER (1.0 PM TO 3.30PM)

The Jubilee Hall has been hired from 12 noon to 4.00 pm.

Leslye led the discussion about the party and it was agreed that:

- This would be a ticket only event and the tickets would be allocated on a first come, first serve basis. Tickets are free, will be for members only and will be limited to 80.
- Members will bring their own food and drink because of the continuing Covid crisis.
- The room decorations will be in U3A colours with the addition of silver tinsel and balloons.
- There will be ten tables with six to eight people on each table.

- Pam and Jean Parry Williams have volunteered to make table decorations and these will be auctioned off at the end of the party and the proceeds given to the Lincs and Notts Air Ambulance charity.
- Tablecloths and perhaps battery-operated tea lights in holders will be provided.
- There will be a charity raffle with donations from members. This will be advertised well before the party. Christine already has raffle tickets.
- There will be a musical presentation by the Ukulele Group

The following activities were suggested for the party:

- Secret Santa – spend around £2.50 and bring a wrapped gift. Take a gift home.
- Headwear competition – prize for the most unusual headwear.
- Themed music/dancing - Tamla Motown was a music suggestion.
- Christmas Line Dance
- Christmas bingo

DATE OF THE NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING 6TH DECEMBER AT 9.30