

Minutes of the executive committee meeting December 4, 2017

Present: Liz Day (LD, chair) Roman Bednarz (RB) Neil Abrahams (NA) Rona Black (RoB) Helen Graham (HG) Lore Arthur (LA) Chris Henry (CH); Susan Elias (SE) Mary Fyfe (MF)

Apologies: Caroline Knapp (CK) Diana McInnes (DM) Di Deudney (DD) Pamela Ruben (PR)

1. Agenda Review. Request for heater in Rosebery Lodge under a.o.b.

2. Minutes of last meeting approved.

3. Reporting back: Monthly Open Meeting with Michael Baume attracted over 100 people. The presentation was considered to have been excellent. Ian McInnes gave a pre-presentation talk on Modern Architecture which was equally well received.

4. Future planning: The Christmas Quiz planning was well on track. Setting up of tables should start at 12.45 with the aim of finishing at 4.30pm. Continuing road works and poor parking might be an issue. Members should be warned (Action: RB).

The Christmas lunch had attracted 77 members so far. More could be accepted. Up to a 100 at the most. MF and RB to contact those who had not given personal addresses;

Convenors' lunch: 23 are expected for the morning session and 20 in the afternoon. Food has been ordered. Details of the agenda yet to be circulated. (action: HG, NA, SE)

5. Welcome leaflet has been widely circulated to existing members online and to new members as part of the pack. No feedback has been received so far.

6. South East London Workshop on membership systems planned for the 15th of November was cancelled. RoB will attend planning meetings on the 10th of January and 14th of March.

7. London Regional Meeting, 26th January, 2018. LA and RB to attend.

Monday 26th of February Workshop: Active Learning and Research – a workshop for enquiring minds” (Action: LD).

8.South East London Network: It was agreed to invite Angela Brown (AB) as its chair to our next meeting on January 8. The intention is to discuss how we and the Network can best collaborate; committee members are encouraged to come forward with ideas on how we think we can contribute and what we hope to get out of it. (Action: LD).

9. New Members' Tea: AB has agreed to continue with it planning and organisation. CA and AB had drawn up a list of roles and responsibilities which was well received. It was agreed that the welcome leaflet/card should be the responsibility of AB and CA together with DD. However, all publicity should have the U3A logo and the Charity status number.

The next New Members' Tea will be on January 22nd, 2018.

10. Newsletter: pictures needed.

11. Membership report: There are now 520 members.

12. Treasurer: MF reported that she had meetings with interested members with the view of preparing her successor. It seems that one of the candidates might be suitable. In terms of process it was agreed that the chair (LD), the secretary (RB), the treasurer (MF) and the membership secretary (CA) should jointly take the matter forward and make recommendation to the committee.

Thereafter posts of Treasurer and of Membership secretary have to be approved by members at the AGM – which will take place on 23rd May.

The planning of the AGM will be discussed at the next committee meeting.

13. Open Meetings: Monday 15th of January, Rob May, Minister of the Baptist Church; “Building a community: seeking the common good”. Wednesday, February 21, Henry Hemmings “M-Maxwell Knights. Britain’s greatest spymaster”; Friday March 23rd. Daniel Greenwood on Sydenham Woods (to be firmed up). 19th April: Benny Dembitzer: ‘The Famine next Door’).

14. Any other business: RB has spare fan heaters which could be used at Rosebery Lodge.