

# EMS VALLEY U3A – COMMITTEE MEETING

## TUESDAY 21ST FEBRUARY 2023

**Present:** Anne Powell (Chair) Tim Mathews (Vice-Chair/ Website) Geoff Wiggins  
Dbee Robinson (Business Secretary) Hilary Street (Treasurer) Ann Sims (Groups Secretary)  
Sue Kent (Membership Secretary) Karen Rodger (Beacon Administrator)  
Margaret Goldfarb (Minutes Secretary)

1. **Apologies:** Geoff Whalley
2. **Minutes and matters arising:** The minutes of the last meeting were agreed and any matters arising will be dealt with during the meeting.
3. **Business Secretary:** The Business Secretary is receiving a large number of e-mails from u3a head office which she then sends on to the committee. It was suggested and agreed that she will continue to do this and that the Webmaster can then add them to the website where they can be seen by members. Alan Borrow to be asked to publicise the links in the newsletter. **Action: Dbee Robinson/ Tim Mathews/ Alan Borrow**

**Christmas Lunch:** The date of the Christmas lunch is Wednesday 29th November 2023 and the venue will be Chichester College, although confirmation and cost have not yet been received from the College.

Dbee has made enquiries about a coach from Emsworth to Chichester and a 70 seater coach would cost £10 per person. There will be further discussions at the next committee meeting.

**Action: Dbee Robinson and committee**

4. **Treasurer's Report:**  
**Hall rents**  
Emsworth Community Centre have submitted some late invoices for December and November 2022, so the projected deficit for this financial year is likely to be £234 higher than previously reported, at around £2,780. This is still better than the original budget and well within the level of reserves available.  
One invoice was for a committee meeting that didn't occur, which I will take up with the Community Centre office. I have checked with group leaders in relation to other December invoices and confirmed that meetings did take place.  
**Membership income**  
Members have begun to make payments for 2023-24 membership renewals. The NatWest app generates a useful statement that I can send to the Membership Secretary on a weekly basis to show which members have paid online. **Action: Hilary Street**
5. **Membership Report:** There are now 533 members of the Ems Valley u3a. 100 members have paid their subscriptions for the year 2023-2024.
6. **Groups Report:**  
We currently have 52 Interest Groups.  
Pilates 2 is seeking new members – they DO have a Waiting List but no-one on the list can attend at the time offered.  
Both the Playreading Groups are full. Colin, who leads Group 2, and Alan will produce an article for the next Newsletter. Colin is willing to help establish a third Group.

### **Group Leaders Social**

So far 52 members have accepted the invitation plus the committee and Meeters and Greeters and any others suggested the numbers will be around 70.

Sue Kent will organise food with help from other committee members and Alan Borrow is to be asked to organise the wine.

The room has been booked from 5pm to 7pm and guests have been asked to arrive from 5.30pm. **Action: Ann Sims/ Sue Kent/ Alan Borrow/ other helpers**

7. **Newsletter:** There was nothing to report.

8. **Website:** There was nothing to report.

9. **Monthly meetings:** The January meeting went very well. The speaker was excellent and held everyone's attention with his talk about Operation Thunderbolt - the raid on Entebbe. The second speaker – the Chair of Governors of St James Primary School – was also very good and she has had one volunteer from the u3a to join the governors of the school. The next meeting on 23rd February will be Mark Lewis with a talk entitled A Mark of Quality. After tea there will be a competition/ quiz between a joint team from Book Group 1 and Book Group 3 versus the audience which will be compered by Alan Borrow.

10. **u3a Posters**

It was agreed that the banners which had been used on u3a Day are to be kept and stored in the cupboard in Mountford 1 to which Geoff Wiggins has a key.

**Action: Dbee Robinson/ Geoff Wiggins**

11. **Aileen's Game**

It was agreed that this will be put on the website for members to access.

**Action: Dbee Robinson/ Tim Mathews**

12. **Zoom Subscription**

This has been renewed but it was agreed that it should be cancelled and a refund requested for unused time. Any group using Zoom will pay for it themselves and a refund requested from the Treasurer. **Action: Tim Mathews/ Hilary Street**

13. **Group Leaders Social** – was discussed at item 6.

14. **AOB**

The person who had been approached to be Vice-Chair next year cannot now do it due to health reasons. It was suggested and agreed that an article should be included in the next newsletter asking for a volunteer to be Vice-Chair and also a volunteer to be Minute Secretary plus volunteers to be added as members of the committee, as we are short of numbers at the moment. Anne Powell agreed to speak to Alan Borrow.

**Action: Anne Powell/ Alan Borrow**