

**EMS VALLEY u3a – COMMITTEE MEETING
TUESDAY 16TH MAY 2023 – MOUNTFORD 3 E.C.C.**

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

Attending: Liz Rosoman

1. The Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming Liz Rosoman as a possible new member of the committee.
2. **Apologies:** Pam Palmer (who had been invited as a possible new committee member).
3. **Minutes:** The minutes were agreed apart from 2 small errors
 - a) The minutes for April had gone out with the March date on
 - b) Item 9 on the April agenda regarding the Monthly Meeting - line 6 should read Playreading Group 1 not Playgroup 1.

4. **Business Secretary's Report:**

It was agreed that a review of the Constitution of the Ems Valley u3a will take place in June.

Action: Tim Mathews

The annual return has now been completed and the year end has been changed to March. The AGM which takes place on 25th May will need 51 members attending to be quorate. All the papers required for the AGM, including the Agenda, have been sent out electronically. There have been no nominations for the position of Vice-Chair. As this is an essential position to be filled, members of the committee were asked for suggestions for a possible nominee. Geoff Wiggins volunteered to speak to someone he thought could be a possibility. Both Geoff Whalley and Geoff Wiggins stated that they no longer wish to be nominated as a committee member.

The arrangements for the AGM were looked at in detail and it was agreed that the committee will be seated on the stage.

The current Chairman - Anne Powell - will be Chairman until the election takes place and the new chairman takes over.

At the end of the AGM the meeting will go straight into the singing group after which there will be tea and cakes for the members followed by a talk from Rod Lipscombe on being a contestant on Mastermind.

Action: Anne Powell/ Dbee Robinson/ Tim Mathews

5. **Treasurer's Report:**

The Treasurer will speak to the auditor soon to finalise the annual accounts.

The Treasurer brought to the committee's notice that some groups were costing more than others for room hire. It was agreed that this should be looked at in more detail to find out why this was happening.

Any deficit this year will be covered by an increase in Gift Aid which will come through next year.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE LATEST BUDGET STATEMENT IS INCLUDED AT THE END OF THE MINUTES

6. **Membership Report:**

There are now 516 fully paid-up members. 7 members have still to pay and will be treated as lapsed if they have not paid by the AGM. 3 members have only paid £20, and it was agreed that they should have a final reminder. **Action: Sue Kent**

7. **Groups Report:**

There is a change of Leader for the Italian Group.

Very sadly, no-one has come forward to carry on the Pubs and Churches Group, so the Group has now closed.

The proposed new Group CAMEO (Come And Meet Each Other) attracted so many enquiries that THREE Groups are now established: Group 1 has already had its first meeting; Group 2 starts in June; Group 3 is finalising arrangements and hopes to start in June. All three groups are full, and a waiting list has been opened.

It was suggested that new members attending their first monthly meeting could be taken by one of the "meeters and greeters" to sit with an existing member to help them feel welcome.

8. **Newsletter:** There was nothing to discuss.

9. **Website:** The new Siteworks framework is still in development and the Webmaster will report back in due course. **Action: Tim Mathews**

10. **Monthly Meeting:** The speaker at the meeting on 27th April was very good and the entertainment by Play Reading Group 1 was excellent.

The meeting on 25th May is the AGM. Once this is completed, the singing group will perform, and tea and cakes will be served after that. This will be followed by a talk from Rod Lipscombe on being a contestant on Mastermind.

11. **AOB:**

Geoff Whalley asked how many members were receiving the u3a monthly magazine, as this is an expense to the group. It was agreed that members will be asked if they wish to continue receiving it. **Action: Sue Kent**

A vote of thanks was unanimously made to the Chairman for her 3 years and 3 months in post.

EMS VALLEY u3a BUDGET 2023-24

	Original	Revised	Change	Reason for change
	£	£	£	
Income				
Subscriptions	13250	13250	0	
Gift Aid	1988	1690	-298	Gift aid will not increase until 24-25 due to time lag
Sales	0	0	0	
Total	15238	14940		
Expenses				
Hall Rents	10000	10600	600	Increase in use of rooms & charges for extras
Speakers	900	1000	100	April speaker expenses higher than usual
Office Expenses	80	50	-30	
Member Subscription	2000	2120	120	Increases with number of members
Magazine	900	830	-70	Current charge (but still an estimate)
Refreshments	200	200	0	
Equipment	100	0	-100	Not used in 22-23
Sundries	120	120	0	
Beacon	550	540	-10	Actual charge
Zoom	165	160	-5	Based on 22-23 actual, increased by 10%
U3A Day	150	150	0	
Total	15165	15770		
Net total	73	-830		
Areas for potential savings in future years:				
Impact of subscription rise on gift aid in future years		470		
Review of room bookings and charges for extras		200		
Cancellation of Zoom licence if not used		160		
		830		