

Minutes of Committee Meeting on 10th April 2024

Present: Adrian Wakeford, Marilyn Kemp, Hazel Irwin, Sandy Bell, Maureen Nicholas , Gail Wynne-Jones

- 1) Apologies for absence: Gill Davies, Jackie Treacher, Ken Laing
- 2) Minutes of previous meeting – accepted
- 3) Matters Arising:
 - a) Gail reported that she now had signed documents from all members of the committee promising to be trustworthy
 - b) Local well being Group – we will definitely participate next time. We already have a flyer at the Emsworth doctors surgery
 - c) David Bittles received his farewell present
- 4) Committee Reports –
 - a) Treasurer - Ken
 - Current bank balance is £6740.09, of which £1054 is receipts from members for the Chartwell outing, and so our effective balance is £5686.09. Our largest annual bill - for our member fees to the Trust - was paid this month (245 members @ £4 each = £980), as was the fee for our stall at this year's Emsworth Show (£87.50).
 - The Pilates' invoice for room hire was billed and paid in March (£251.88) - group receipts to cover this had already been received. £29 was reimbursed to Gill Polgreen for expenses incurred on our new tablecloth.
 - Some advice came through from the Trust re paying for speakers, which we comply with - ie we agree a fee or a donation to charity in advance of the talk.
 - b) Speakers Sec- Marilyn
 - A very enjoyable, interesting talk from Ben Cross last month, re Alstromerias grown and sold locally. He sold 73 out of the 75 bunches that he brought to the meeting. Mine lasted just over three weeks. Beautiful and excellent value for money.
 - I am anticipating our April meeting to give us all a few laughs, when Julian Le Good gives his talk on, 'A Portrait of an Architect as a Young Man.' He guarantees it to be rip roaring, rib tickling and absolutely NOT Pevsner on Medieval Architecture of Hampshire!
 - Julian does not charge a fee for the talk, but asks for a donation for cancer support. Since last year he has been collecting exclusively for Macmillan, as they have supported him through his own cancer journey. However, he has requested, that with our groups consent, a percentage of the donation may be given to cancer research for a rare form of cancer affecting women aged 65+. The symptoms can be confused with other post menopausal symptoms. It is cancer of the vulva and affects 1 in 4000 women. It is rare, but not so rare that it killed his cousin last year. He says he will speak about it briefly at the end of his talk. Perhaps we could make

a donation from group funds in lieu of a fee and also ask our members to dig deep into their pockets.

- Julian is going to use handouts, rather than a PowerPoint presentation. He is not keen on being tethered to a microphone!
- Last but not least : Our lovely Gill is due home on 15th April and intends to come to the meeting on 19th. Horray. We've all missed her.

•

c) Groups Coordinator - Jackie

- Since our last meeting we have had 2 new members coffee mornings which were good, although Bridget was disappointed that not all new members responded. The next ones are likely to be June/July. Hazel has sent me the invite for last years Health and Wellbeing Fair. We haven't received an invite so far this year but I have emailed to enquire. I am still following up on possible new history group and stroll and lunch group.
- I am booked on the Beacon training for Group Coordinators on the 15th April. I haven't done this before.

•

d) Outings Report – Maureen

- I am now in the final stages of preparing for the Outing to Chartwell on Thursday 16th May. We only have a small number who are not members of the National Trust. They have now been asked to make a payment of £18.00 to cover the cost of admission. I need to pay with one cheque for them when we arrive. All NT members must show their proof of membership. One couple has withdrawn from the outing so they have been replaced by two members who were on the Reserve list. So we still have 49 members on the coach.
- I am now in the very early stages of planning an Outing in September to Parham House and Gardens. The earliest date the coach was available is Friday 13th September so I have made a provisional booking. I now need to see if we have enough support to make it viable. More people are needed to cover the cost of the coach. If necessary, Emsvalleyu3a members will be invited

e) Members Sec - Hazel

- Our current membership stands at 255, but of these 17 have yet to renew. I've spoken with various group leaders and know some of these are unwell and intend to renew, but it's really time they paid up or were taken off the books. I'll send out the usual reminder before the next meeting. The burst of new people coming in has slowed right down, and we have just one new member since the last meeting

f) Secretary - Gail

- Updating the u3aTrust with new committee members and the Annual Return both completed

- 5) It was agreed to move forward with the new SiteWorks website builder. Gail will sign the Terms and Conditions for it, and Gail and Sandy will do the training.
- 6) Emergency Contacts.
 - a) Currently we do not store emergency contact details for each member. It was agreed that we should do so in the future. Hazel will modify the membership application form, and at some point existing members will be asked to provide it.
- 7) Registration of attendees at the monthly meeting.
 - a) It was agreed that we should ask people to sign in when they come to the monthly meeting, so that in the event of a fire we are able to check that everyone has been saved. Sandy will add to the initial displays at the meeting that if such an emergency should arise, they should gather outside the main door in order to be counted.
- 8) A.O.B.
none
- 9) Date of next meeting: 8th May 2024 at Sandy's house