

## **COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES 10 JANUARY 2024**

**Those Present:** Adrian Wakeford, Maureen Nicholas, Marilyn Kemp, Hazel Irwin, David Bittles, Sandy Bell, Jackie Treacher: In attendance Gail Wynn-Jones

1. **Apologies for Absence.** Gill Davies, Ken Laing
2. **Minutes of the Last Meeting.** Accepted.
3. **Matters Arising.** JT invited Group Leaders to advise if they had any problems with the Web. JT and SB liaising.
4. **Reports.**

**Chairman.** Nothing to report

**Secretary.** Nothing to Report

**Treasurer.** Our end of year bank balance for 2023 was £6454.65 (last year it was £6937.67). KL will do a detailed breakdown of expenditure for the final accounts and it is worth noting that if the cost of the volunteers' lunch, which wasn't held in 2022, is removed then the balance has remained fairly static, We have received £593.96 from HMRC as the Gift Aid payment. There is an urgent requirement for an auditor for the accounts for the AGM; HI and AW to liaise with potentially qualified members. It was agreed that £400 should be allocated to buying a new projector if AW decided that the projector offered by SB was not suitable.

**Group Coordinator.** During 2023 we unfortunately lost our Craft, coffee and chat Group and our Opera Group has become dormant due to the ill health of its long term leader. On the plus side we have gained a new Poetry Writing Group, a second Scrabble Group, which is open to all, and a new Craft Group. This Group has undertaken to produce a tablecloth for the stand at the Emsworth Show. JT is working on potential new groups for 2024 and, whilst there is lots of interest in new groups, there is less interest in leading. JT is currently liaising with Toni on the new Programme and Activities leaflet and, whilst there are a lot of changes, it should be available for the January meeting.

**Visits/Outings/Social.** The next planned visit is to Chartwell on 16 May. The cost of coach hire is £20pp with free entry to Chartwell for National Trust members and £18 for non-members. The outing needs 44 members – to date 36 have signed up - to make the trip viable with confirmation, with £20 fee, required by 5 February as the coach booking needs to be confirmed by 16 February. Because of Chartwell's staggering of coach arrivals we have a slot at 1030 and will need to leave by 1430; departure from Emsworth will be 0800. It was agreed that any spare seats could be offered to Ems Valley. SB to advertise the trip at the January monthly meeting.

**Membership.** There are currently 257 members but 78 have yet to renew. It is anticipated that some may renew at the monthly meeting. A couple of new members have joined recently.

**Speakers.** The January speaker is confirmed as The Rev Dr Nicholas Henderson – 'Russia Part 1'

**Publicity.** Nothing to report.

**Web Administrator.** Following a number of email hacks (DB to advise members of this in the AGM calling notice) SB will check the Web to ensure that, where practical, links to members are provided rather than email addresses. The Trust will be rolling out the new software across u3as this year which should improve the system significantly.

5. **Christmas Lunch 2024.** Chichester College has been provisionally booked for Friday 6 December. Accepting that this is a Training College and therefore standards cannot be guaranteed – which is reflected in the price – there was some feeling that the meal was not as good as the two previous years. It was agreed that 'word of mouth' members' views would be sought and a final decision would be taken at the February Committee Meeting.

6. **Group Leaders' Lunch.** JT has invited 44 members to the lunch with, to date, 24 acceptances, 8 not available and 12 yet to reply. It was agreed that Committee members would arrive by 1100 to prepare the room; DB and AW to meet Barbara at 1000. DB to organise wine and soft drinks.
7. **AGM.** Calling Notice to be emailed to members during the w/c 15 January within the Constitutional requirement of 21 days notice of the AGM. Committee members to submit their end of year reports for the AGM by 31 January
8. **AOB.** No other business
9. **Date of Next Meeting** 1000 14 February 2024 at 11 Belper Gardens, PO10 7FJ