

MINUTES OF EXE VALLEY U3A COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 28 FEBRUARY 2024 AT THE OHSCC

Present : M Turner (Chair), C Redhead (Secretary), P Sadler (Treasurer), K Huntley-Sadler, J Riddiford, J Kelly, J Jeffrey, C Boote, D Lal

Apologies: A Bush

The minutes of the last committee meeting were agreed with two minor amendments and signed by the chair. Mike welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Matters Arising

1. Printed minutes of last year's AGM will be made available to members in March at the AGM – **Carol** will print 10 copies of minutes and 10 of the accounts as most members will have received them via e mail.
2. **Chris** will ask Lynne to take the Treasure Hunt off the Newsletter.
3. Carol has spoken to Grenville re invoices for the Cherith and this has been sorted and paid up to date.. They are happy for us to use their equipment and further discussions are taking place to finalise the details of using it.

Chair's Report

Mike will include mention of members who have died this year in his AGM report. He will also mention and thank all those who help in various ways but are not on the committee.

Secretary's Report

1. The new committee list will be sent out after the AGM.
2. The Pilot Council meeting is taking place today re the U3A Fit for the Future.
3. The Older People's Project organisers have contacted us regarding domestic abuse. It was decided we do not need to be involved with this but there will be a paragraph put into our newsletter with a link to a Helpline. **Chris** will do this.
4. Sue Parker the Regional Rep, has informed us of the Board Meeting on 21 February.
5. All AGM procedures are in place.

Treasurer's Report

1. Balance at Bank - £4101.66 – Lloyds, £295.66 – HSBC plus cash in hand £283 making a total of £4680.22
2. The annual report has been audited by Tricia Clark and was approved by the committee for presentation at the AGM.
3. Paul will prepare a Power Point for the AGM
4. The reception area at the monthly meetings was discussed and re-thought to make registration easier. **Jo and Joan** will help with this at the meetings.
5. The positioning of the books table will be changed to make the drinks hatch more accessible.

Membership Secretary's Report

We have now 211 members who are paid up with 12 still to renew. We have 1 new member and 2 more possible members. 1 new committee member has been nominated and will be voted on at the AGM.

Beacon Report

1. Jo attended the Beacon Zoom meeting for training. 35 attended and there are now 570 U3As using Beacon. This means that it will be more difficult to get on to the online courses. Karyl is booked for one on 28th March.
2. Jo has a problem with hers in that she is unable to send e mails from the officers list.
3. Jo queried if the committee should have access to view the Treasurer's transactions. Mike and Paul are happy with the way it is working as Paul requests payment authorisation from Mike and this happens very quickly and easily so no change was felt necessary.
4. There is a demo system on the drop down list.
5. Kathy Senior has now been set up as a group leader for the Tuesday skittles and Tim Dyke as group leader for the poetry. Jo took the Art Group off Beacon.
6. After discussions it was agreed that the group funds and the way they are dealt with can remain as they are.
7. Site Builder replacement is ongoing and the new Site Works is being tested and will include events management. Funding will be £50 per year when we have the new version.
8. There is a Facebook group for U3As called Lets Talk Tech if anyone is interested.
9. It was agreed we don't need to have the figures for Website hits from Beacon.

Programme Organiser's Report

1. In response to recent enquiries and comments it was agreed to hold a coffee morning for all members on Wednesday 29 May and Carol will enquire and hopefully book the Cherith.
2. Jill said that Helen Booth is happy to provide a talk if we need last minute help at any time.
3. Joan is investigating Exmoor Zoo as a speaker for next year and will also enquire at the Donkey Sanctuary. It was also suggested a visit to the Donkey Sanctuary.
4. Joan stated that providing everyone on the committee would help to contact and arrange a speaker then she would carry on in the role of consolidating the speakers.

IT

1. Carol has claimed for postages, ink and cartridges.
2. Carol will prepare the new programme in readiness for the April meeting and will include the new committee details.
3. Joan will check details of June speaker and let Carol know.
4. Carol and Anne attended the North Devon Link meeting. It was decided to postpone the Theme Day for a year as the person who was most involved has pulled out. The Fit for the Future consultation did not hold any interest for them. Monthly meeting format and speakers were discussed. Some U3As have coffee mornings and lunches, not all have speakers every month. Some have social events and quizzes. Carol had

been given some speakers which may be of interest and will circulate these to the committee.

5. There are discount deals for U3As with organisations such as Fred Olsen and Microsoft but these are not easy to access
6. One of the U3As organises a thank you for “really useful people” who are not on committee and this was felt to be a good idea to incorporate into the Group Leaders Cream Tea.

Social Organiser’s Report

About 37 quiz tickets have been sold.

Group Co-ordinator’s Report

1. The Handbell group has stalled at the moment as they have to sort out insurance for the bells if they are taken outside the Church. It was suggested maybe the group could meet in the Church or in the Church rooms. Lyn Chapman is looking into the possibilities and Karyl is on the case too.
2. Lyn also has an idea for an Art group to meet outdoors and paint.
3. **Karyl** will ask Wendy to take Knit 2 Chat 2 off the Website.
4. The Beacon tutorial was helpful and Karyl is signed in to the workshop.
5. Karyl has met with the Tiverton Group Co-ordinator and this was a useful meeting.
6. **Karyl** will enquire from the Tiverton Golf Club and the Tiverton Hotel re the cost of a cream tea for the Group Leaders and really useful people.
7. She would like to put sign up sheets for new groups on display at the AGM – this was agreed.

Website

No changes to be made other than Knit2 Chat2

Welfare

Usual cards have been sent.

Newsletter.

1. Remind people to arrive by 1.30 for quorum
2. Remind re car parking availability at Tesco.
3. Quiz reminder for tickets.

AOB

Paul will buy the wine as a thank you to Tricia for auditing the accounts.

Jill will mention that there will be two queues in the foyer for the monthly meetings in future – A-J and K-Z

The meeting was closed and the next meeting will be on Wednesday 3 April at 9.30 am.