

## **Four Border Abbeys u3a: Minutes of Committee Meeting 25th January 2024**

### 1. Welcome & Apologies

Apologies CB (attending AR meeting), PS

### 2. Minutes of last meeting & matters arising.

Minutes of December meeting accepted.

### 3. Chair's Report

Extra £24 gratefully received by New Age Kurling Group. Open Meeting was very successful with Alisdair Allen as Speaker. He sold all his books & several more were delivered to members by JS. Approximately 90 members attended.

JS outlined future Speakers programme for Open Meetings:

1.2.24. Kenny McLean (Evacuees in the Borders)

7.3.24. AGM & Jim Burrell

4.4.24. Gardeners' Question Time: Emma Emmerson (Woodside Garden Centre), one of the Floors castle horticultural team and Prue Pullen (chairing). Marilyn Bridger will be organising a cuttings share too.

5.5.24. To be arranged

6.6.24. Summer Social

5.9.24. Isla Martin (British Legion) & welcome back

4.10.24. Kim Ritchie - Microlites.

8.11.24. To be arranged

5.12.24. Christmas Social

It was agreed that £90 could be paid in travel expenses for Philip Caine to come and speak – JS to arrange a date. Arrangement of other speakers is ongoing.

JS to attend u3a Scotland Zoom meeting of Chairs on 25.1.24.

GO has pointed out that the U3A can benefit from commission for members buying travel via specific advertisements - eg The Riviera Travel Company. JS to investigate further.

JS will ask GO to put u3a Scotland Summer School link on the website; JS will also email all members.

### 4. Treasurer's Report

R Tice has all accounts to examine. Funds still looking healthy.

RA requested that better current deals for mobiles to be looked at. At present AG has to top up mobile each month. AG to investigate.

RA requested for a list of members to be downloaded – JS to action.

RA suggested that after the AGM, RA & AG look at members being able to renew their membership online if they wish.

### 5. Group Coordinator's Report

Beginners' Bridge - no leader still - leaving it until September.

Gardening Group 2 - looking for a new leader.

Metal Detecting - progress postponed due to illness but LM will follow up.

Scrabble - now meeting twice a month at Abbey Row.

Playreading - now meeting every 2nd Friday.

Christine Henderson is much better & hoping to come back. LM to approach her to see whether she'd be willing to lead a group on the History of Border Towns.

### 6. Membership Secretary's Report

Currently 354 members.

All titles have been entered on Beacon – required for Gift Aid

### 7. AGM Preparation

Chair's report will be sent to all members before meeting.

Membership fees to remain to remain the same for the moment.  
Final details to be discussed at next meeting.

8. Arrangements for February Meeting  
Routine as normal.

9. AOB

It was agreed that R. Tice should be given a bottle of whisky - JS to purchase.  
MC to investigate dates for a summer outing in June to Culross.

10. Date of next meeting

2pm 29.2.24 - CB to book Abbey Row

After this meeting at 3pm there will be a Group Leader's Meeting. Coffee and tea to be provided. MC/AG to organise.