

Minutes of Glossop U3A committee Meeting – 23rd April 2020

This meeting was conducted on 'Zoom' due to the Corvid19 crisis.

1) Present – Barbara Connah, Glyn Connah, Chris Blackett, Diane Butterworth, Maureen Brierley, Barbara Craven, and Jo Mortlock.

2) Apologies – Brigette Manchee, Sue Vince, Jean Lowcock.

3) Minutes of the last meeting – Proposed J Mortlock seconded B Craven that minutes be accepted.

4) Matters Arising – The following actions from last time have been put on hold:-

Induction of Sue Vince.

PAT testing.

Group leaders to check that attendees are U3A members.

U3A day moved to 1st October

5) Correspondence

Various newsletters and other communications from the Third Age Trust have been circulated to all committee members.

Message about diaries to be forwarded to Maureen to respond. GC

6) Treasurer's Report

Maureen had submitted the attached report for consideration in advance of the meeting. Further to the issue of cancelled trips, the potential losses total £4854. Glyn will ask if there is any insurance cover with the Third Age Trust that would help us to recover this. GC

Maureen had also circulated some thoughts on the positive impact of the lockdown in cost savings from room hire. Also attached.

7) GM Network Report – All Greater Manchester Network and North West U3A activities are also postponed.

8) Committee Secretary's Report – Glyn reported that Gill Russell of the Northwest Region Network was asking for contacts in each U3A and he agreed to be the contact for Glossop U3A. A communication from Gill asking for information about how we are keeping in touch with members will be circulated for comments. GC

9) Membership Secretary's Report – Diane reported that she had made around 100 phone calls to members to keep in touch with people who haven't got email. Nobody reported having problems. She had also heard that there was some interaction with groups. One example was the poetry group where Graham is sending out a poem to read each week.

10) Group and Activities Coordinator's Report – Nothing to report.

11) AOB

i) Thursday Group – meetings on hold. Barbara Craven has all the potential speakers from website enquiries forwarded by Glyn. Accounts mentioned in Maureen's analysis which predicts a surplus as a result of room rental savings. Barbara Connah noted that from previous experience as

Thursday Group Treasurer it would be a good idea to retain a surplus. It may still be possible to keep annual subscriptions at £18 for another year.

ii) Keeping in Touch – We have received various suggestions from the Third Age Trust.

Ask Jean to forward this material to group leaders and ask them how/if they are keeping in touch. – GC

Some groups don't register member's emails at all. This may be if the group leader doesn't have email. Diane will let Barbara Craven know if any members of the Book group or History1 have emails. – DB

Information about study forums and closed Facebook groups to be circulated to all members. - DB

It was noted that there are 'how to' tutorials generally available on YouTube. Eg Watts App

iii) Writing Competition – We have received a proposal from Graham Sharratt intended to run during the summer break. Barbara Connah will contact him for more details. - BCon

iv) Email Problems – We have received reports of faulty emails from Diane. Diane has found error messages with 2 groups of emails but doesn't know what to do. She will check that emails are correct and suggests that we request an update from members at renewal. (Also some missing membership forms.)

v) The next meeting will be set up as a 2 part meeting.

Next Meeting Thursday 18th June 2020 at 11.00am.

Glyn Connah

Treasurer's Report

1. Summary Accounts and Budget Forecast to the end of March are available for the committee. The total in the bank for all areas and activities of the U3A, to the end of March, is £12,486.46.
2. The NATWest has requested further proof of identity for Jo Mortlock before she becomes a signatory for current account.
3. The examination of the half yearly accounts by Chris Parrack has been postponed until the present coronavirus emergency is over.
4. The National Subscription to the Third Age Trust for 2020-21 has been sent. The fee is £3.50 X 351 full members = £1,228.50.
5. **Cancelled Trips.** I have spoken to Maureen Hobson, re the theatre shows that have had to be cancelled due to the Coronavirus, which include the following; "Back to the Future," "The Kite Flyer," "West Side Story," and she is contacting the theatre production companies to discuss the refund of money or future dates for the shows. As the theatres closed the shows, cancelling them, the refunds for our members is the responsibility of the theatres not us. Regarding Alice's Trips; "The Manchester Police Museum," and "Shibdon Hall." Shibdon Hall is closed and the money Alice collected for it has not been paid to out to the companies but is still in the U3A Account for that trip. As for the "Police Museum", Mayne's Coaches have accepted cancellation and not requested payment. The cheque for the coach was issued but not cashed so Alice has returned it to me for voiding. She is having more difficulty with "Greatdays" who organised the trip. Seemingly Alice, after a meeting with her group on the 16th March, cancelled the trip on the 17th March – before the government lockdown, and "Greatdays" have asked her to reschedule rather than cancel saying they would not be able to refund the money, as they have already paid the hotel etc that would have been used and have refused to give the payments back. Alice and "Greatdays" have agreed to reschedule for 13th October 20 and "Greatdays" will hold on to the payment. I've advised Alice to accept this for the moment but to be aware that the lockdown may still be in place even then and that she would be better negotiating a date into next Spring. She is unable to speak to anyone further at "Greatdays" as they have closed their offices.