

Grange & District u3a

Minutes of Committee Meeting

Held on Friday 14 October 2022 in the Council Chamber, Victoria Hall

	ACTION
<p>Present Brian Loader, Hilary Wade, Michael McCormick, Susan Jones, John Eakins, Mick Love, Julia Nicholson, Christine Patrick, Tricia Thomas, Ged Jones, Erline Robinson (part time)</p> <p>1 Minutes of the previous meetings (held on 16 September 2022) The minutes were accepted.</p> <p>2 Matters Arising/Actions Check Ged is yet to inform Group Coordinators/Leaders (GCLs) about the new charging structure for the hire of the Victoria Hall. The new fees schedule is to be implemented from 1 January 2023.</p> <p>John has purchased a diary for booking the use of u3a equipment.</p> <p>Brian reported that he had received feedback that attendees had found the Summer Event/Games morning very enjoyable. The Committee thanked Hilary and Julia for all their efforts in making the morning such a success.</p> <p>3 Newsletter Brian has reminded GCLs of the deadline for any copy regarding their groups' activities to be submitted to Erline. Brian also reported he will complete the Chairman's report (including a piece on the Summer Event) and an item about the table tennis group before the deadline.</p> <p>Erline has reduced the page count to 20 on the basis of material received to date.</p> <p>Erline informed the meeting that Andrew Musgrave is now the GCL for the Walking group.</p> <p>It was agreed that the copy deadline for the March 2023 newsletter will be 20 February 2023. (Erline left the meeting at this point.)</p> <p>4 Future meetings Hilary reminded the meeting that it is necessary to find a volunteer to take over the production of posters advertising the general meeting. Christine suggested that it made sense for the Speaker Finder to produce the posters and this was agreed.</p> <p>5 Membership Susan had circulated the membership statistics prior to the meeting and reported that we now have 482 members (of whom 13 are associate members and 3 are new members)</p> <p>It was confirmed that reciprocity only applies to Furness u3a. Kendal and Ambleside have reiterated they do not wish to institute reciprocal arrangements with Grange.</p>	<p>Ged</p>

Susan asked whether she should purchase additional blank membership cards and this was agreed.

John reminded the meeting that there had been a previous proposal to consider the introduction of plastic bar-coded membership card which could be read with a scanner. Julia thought plastic cards would lose the useful next-of-kin information which can be accommodated on the current cards. It was agreed to continue with the current system.

6 Finance

Michael had circulated a report prior to the meeting and the accounts were accepted.

Our funds have been depleted slightly because of the events which had occurred but the situation remains stable and we retain a healthy balance.

Victoria Hall fees

Michael has calculated that the charging regime to be introduced by the Victoria Hall in January 2023 the cost of our monthly general meeting will increase from £90 per meeting to £99.6 (including £20 for use of the kitchen and a "labour" charge for setting up and removing the seating). This represents a rise of slightly less than 11%. John asked whether we could receive a discount if we used our own projector.

Following a discussion, it was agreed that we would continue the status quo.

7 Group Coordinators/Leaders (GC/Ls)

Mick Love has already received one contact in his role as (temporary) point of contact.

Brian reported that Chris Wilkinson (Chairman of the Grange Institute) has confirmed again that members of the u3a snooker group also need to be snooker members of the Institute (at a cost of £35 per year).

Brian will clarify further with Chris Wilkinson

Brian

John pointed out that the fact that Beacon showed only one member of the snooker group does not mean there were no other members. John agreed to ascertain who is on Beacon for each of our groups.

John

Brian reported that David Houghton is starting a new indoor touch tennis group from Monday 17 October and Brian will ask David to provide an article for the newsletter. David has requested a grant of £210 to purchase equipment. This was agreed in principle although protocol requires that this be formally confirmed at our November meeting.

Brian

Mick said that he had his wife (Lin) are willing to help with the Out & About trips.

8 Security of u3a equipment.

John has made informal enquiries about who has keys for the u3a equipment cupboard. There are 2 keys in the possession of the catering team which are circulated depending upon who is providing refreshments at a particular meeting.

Hilary has returned a key which John will hold as a spare.
There was a discussion about the projector which was bought in part using funds from the cinema buffs group which means that the group has first call on the projector. It was agreed that the simplest solution is that the cinema buffs group will be responsible for taking bookings for the projector and anybody wishing to use the projector needs to contact Bob Lear (or his deputy).

John will inform Bob that we are happy for the cinema buffs group to control the diary

John

On a general point John pointed out that we will need to identify who can set up the projector if we wish to use it. Although it was agreed that it will remain the default option to use the Victoria Hall projection facilities.

Michael will clarify with the Victoria Hall Manager the fees for using the projection facilities

Michael

Julia suggested we establish an online booking system for using u3a equipment and John agreed to investigate this approach.

John

9 Any Other Business

As the date of our next meeting is scheduled for Armistice Day, we will start the meeting at 9:30 to allow those attendees who wish to do so to attend the Remembrance ceremony at the war memorial at 11:00.

It was agreed that we will participate in the Christmas tree festival and Hilary will ask members for volunteers to “staff” our exhibition.

John informed the meeting that a draft environmental policy has been created for u3as.

11 Date of next meetings

Friday 11 November 2022, Council Chamber, Victoria at 9:30.