

Grange & District u3a

Minutes of Committee Meeting

Held on Friday 17 March 2023 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</p> <p>1 Minutes of the previous meeting (held on 17 February 2023) With corrections to two typographical errors the minutes were accepted</p> <p>2 Matters Arising/Actions Check Brian had written to Grange Town Council proposing that Victoria Hall bookings be allowed for half hour slots and requesting greater flexibility to allow some additional time before and after meetings (for example to restore the room/hall to its default arrangement). Following a meeting to consider a report from a working party GTC had agreed that in future it will be possible to book meeting spaces for half hour time periods. No mention was made by GTC of the request for flexibility. However, this requirement is effectively covered by means of booking an additional half hour.</p> <p>Brian also asked Group Coordinators/Leaders (GCLs) whether they would like a table for Enrolment Day and has received a good response</p> <p>As the Victoria Hall Manager has been on holiday Tricia has been unable to speak to her about the need for extra tables for Enrolment Day.</p> <p>Michael has made a start on the Gift Aid issue.</p> <p>John has informed GCLs of the existence of the national u3a environmental policy.</p> <p>Susan has not yet made contact about updating the u3a entry on the GTC "What's on" website</p> <p>3 Future meetings Nothing to report, everything is on track regarding monthly general meetings.</p> <p>4 Enrolment Day The kitchen team has been informed that refreshments should be available as necessary through the morning rather than serving them all at a single time.</p> <p>Brain will issue a final note to GCLs asking them if they would like table space.</p> <p>5 Membership Membership figures are currently in a state of flux because we are in the enrolment period. However, Susan reported that we have 9 new members and 250 renewals thus far which leaves 249 remaining</p>	<p>Brian</p>

5 Finance

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

Michael's difficulties with the Barclays account continue.

Our finances remain in a healthy state. Committee expenses look high but this is an anomaly caused by the cost of events such as the summer event in September 2022.

Printing costs have risen by approximately 35% in the last year. However, Michael has undertaken a quick survey of the market and this cost remains competitive.

Michael is awaiting financial reports from some groups.

The annual accounts are now with the Honorary Auditor. The auditor has informed Michael that he is stepping down after this year so we will need to find a replacement.

Following a brief discussion Ged agreed to consult the relevant Grange u3a policy regarding who may book venues for our events/meetings.

Ged

7 Group Coordinators/Leaders (GC/Ls)

Brian reported that there is a new Rummikub group and the GCL has already made contact with the Grange Institute about holding meetings there.

Brian also reported that the new Bible Quest group is up and running.

8 Annual General Meeting (AGM)

Ged requested that the annual Chairman's report and Treasurer's report be sent to him by 7 April 2023.

Brian agreed to send out the Sunday night email "reminder" about the AGM

Brian

John asked that as he is standing down from the committee at the AGM, would we like to nominate a replacement as representative on the Bay Area Network (BAN). Brian agreed to consider whether he will take over this role.

Brian reported that Phil Nicholson had received an email from the national u3a informing him that the system on which local websites are based is changing. However, as this is likely to be a long-term process and experience shows the likelihood of teething troubles it was agreed to wait until the new system is fully bedded in before we change over. Peter Webber has offered his help if needed and John stated he is willing to help with the implementation if necessary.

10 Date of next meetings

Friday 14 April 2023, Council Chamber, Victoria Hall