

Minutes of Meeting of Great Glen U3A Committee

7th March 2023 at 2.15 p.m. in the Ruth Warner Room

Present: Peter Russell, Sue Russell, Roger Edwards, Janet Fanko, Robert Mansfield, Patricia Mansfield, Di Richardson, Lynda Williams and Elizabeth Cooke

1. **Welcome and Apologies:** PR welcomed Committee members to the meeting. There were no apologies.
2. **Minutes of Meeting 31st January 2023:** Accepted with an adjustment to item 7. Finance Matters.
3. **Matters arising.**
 - a. **Table Tennis Tables** – this has not yet been moved. PR has inspected the tables in the Sports Hall, both are in good condition. One can be moved to the university with their approval and the other possibly to the Methodist Church. **RE to progress.**
 - b. **Asset Marking** – SO has the equipment to do this, but this will be left until after EO' s funeral. **c. Financial Controls Review-** approved.
 - d. **Date of Open Day** – proposed to be on the afternoon of 20th September 2023.
 - e. **Coronation** – only one helper to prepare something for 8th May has come forward, therefore it was concluded there is no interest in GG u3a doing anything.
 - f. **Access to Committee Meetings** – RM's draft policy was approved.
4. **March Monthly Meeting- 8th March.** PM has let RE know the speaker's requirements.
5. **Membership Matters** - JF reported that there were 4 new members in February (12 new members in 2023 to date) to give a total of 349 of whom 25 are associate members.
 - a. **Renewals update** – notices have gone out and about half had renewed to date. Several members have died or resigned.
6. **Finance Matters** - RE reported there is £15,500 in the bank, an invoice for PAT testing had not yet been received.
 - a. **New Savings Account-** A new account with United Trust Bank has been opened today (07.03.2023) with £5,000 giving double the rate of interest of the Bath Building Society.
 - b. **Gift Aid Review-** RE presented a paper on the current position in that GA is claimed where relevant on annual fees and monthly session fees. In view of recent Trust guidance RE has written to the Trust for clarification on best practice.
 - c. **Croquet Group-** The Thursday group is still not receiving enough to cover hall hire. It was agreed to review this in six months.
7. **Network Matters** –RM reported on: a. his Enriching Preparation for Retirement paper which was greeted favourably. The next step being to contact other Network chairs, their email replies are being awaited. b. The Network resolved to give more priority to virtual support groups.
8. **AGM Timetable-** This will be on the same date as the June 2023 committee meeting, giving the beginning of May as the deadline for any notifications. RE has prepared most of the draft Financial Report which PR has reviewed (he will complete after the yearend). **Committee members to review in 'AGM' in Dropbox and let RE/PR know of any changes suggested.**

9. **Committee Vacancies** – PR reported that except for PR and SR there were no further resignations except that the present Welfare and Disability Officer has resigned as a member. No offers to stand had been received.
10. **Development Working Party (DWP)** - SR reported Open House is on 15th February was well received and attended with 19. There was good circulation. 2 new members who had found out about the meeting through the website joined at the meeting. The next Open House is planned for the 19th April, but it is difficult to know at present if there will be enough potential attendees.

The next Tea, Talk and Trivia meeting is planned for 20.03.2023.

The garden group is running with visits to member's gardens starting on Friday 10th March 2023.

New Group meetings are planned as follows: Birdwatching 2.30pm 14.03.2023; Poetry 2.30pm 22.03.2023 (there is an enthusiastic leader, but as yet not many others); Local History 10.30am 06.04.2023 and Photography 2.30am 13.04.2023.

11. **Groups Coordinator's Report** - DR reported she had been to the bridge group meeting on 1st March to try to resolve the refreshment query. They were unwilling to stop playing for refreshments as they would not have time to complete all their hands. DR concluded individual members needed to sort out their own needs.

The Psychology group had had a presentation with 20 participating members.

The new Table Tennis group had met but had cancelled the second meeting as there were too few to attend. The group has continued to meet since then.

DR is waiting to receive group registers to review and check on Beacon for the year end.

12. **Business Secretary's Report** - EC reported nothing to report.

13. **Newsletter** – LW's hand was a lot better and the March newsletter had already been sent out.

14. **Any Other Business-**

- a. **Local Election Day-** it was reported that the Methodist Hall may be unavailable on 4th May as it may be a polling station.

- b. **U3a Magazine** – there is an issue with not everyone on the circulation list receiving a copy. This is a known issue – **PR will be following this up and will report any further information.**

15. **Next Meeting:** Tuesday 4th April at 2.15 p.m. in the Ruth Warner Room.

The meeting ended at 4.00 pm.