

Minutes of Meeting of Great Glen U3A Committee

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

Present: Robert Mansfield, Roger Edwards, Janet Fanko, Di Richardson, Lynda Williams and Elizabeth Cooke.

In attendance: June Juett as prospective newsletter editor.

1. **Welcome and Apologies-** RM welcomed Committee members and June Juett to the meeting. There were apologies received from Patricia Mansfield.
2. **Minutes of Meeting 3rd October 2023 Matters Arising** -The matters arising are reported under the appropriate headings. RM reported that we now have a nominated representative (Christine Hunter) on the Village Hall Committee.
 - 2.1 **Minutes of Meeting 23rd October 2023 and Matters Arising**-The minutes were accepted with a small adjustment. There were no matters arising.
3. **Membership Matters** - JF reported that there were 8 new members in October (53 for the year) giving a total of 368 at 31.10.2023, including 31 associate members. JF had set up an advertisement on the Great Glen Facebook page. This will need keeping up to date.
4. **Finance Matters** - RE reported £17,500 was in the bank after all rentals had been paid. He also reported that there is upward pressure on speaker fees, he expects there will be a surplus for the year. RE had done an outline budget for 2024/25, but due to uncertainty on amalgamation this will not be presented to the meeting until January 2023 when things should be a bit clearer.
5. **Gift Aid** - JF reported that the new Gift Aid forms have been sent out. Only 78 had been received back to date which represented about half of the previous gift aid givers.
6. **Monthly Speaker Meetings** – RM reported for PM Christmas meeting is in hand and speakers have now been booked to May 2024. **RM/PM will send list to be posted on the website.**
7. **Groups Coordinator's Report** – DR reported that she had requested feedback from group leaders on the open day and had a poor response, but one comment stood out in that there needs to be publicity for the u3a and groups all year round.

RE reported that the remaining table tennis table has yet to be moved.

- 7.1 Quiz Group Payments – Paper F by RE was discussed. The quiz group had had no new members but was holding a free session for anyone interested in November. It was decided to hold the fee at £10 pa for next year, but reducing the fee by 50% for members joining on or after 1st July.

It was realised subsequent to the meeting that there would only be 8 quiz sessions in 2024 due to clashes with bank holidays so it was agreed to adjust this to £8 pa.

8. **Business Secretary's Report** – EC reported on the latest TAT newsletter.
9. **Network meeting on 19th October** - RM reported and had sent papers reporting on the meeting to all the committee members. Countesthorpe u3a had decided not to attend future Network meetings.

The main point of the Network meetings being to share ideas. In the group sessions it was mentioned that 'Pop up Stalls' can prove useful for publicity.

It is considered important that all u3a members should contribute to defining the remit of the newly formed Council. **RM is to send a summary to the group leaders on the role of the newly formed 'Council'.**

10. **Promotional Activity**- We are using Great Glen and Oadby and Wigston Facebook pages to advertise. It was felt other social media should be used, but that we did not have the expertise.
11. **Newsletter** – LW reported that this month's newsletter had gone out as the monthly meeting was early this month. June Juett had kindly offered to consider to take over editorship of the newsletter from January 2024. LW to stay on the committee.
12. **Confidential Item Proposal for Collaboration with Oadby and Wigston u3a**- this had been reported at their October meeting and a Special General Meeting is to be convened in November to vote on a proposal to wind up the charity. Members of Great Glen u3a had been informed of this. It was agreed that if the O&W vote is in agreement the aim should be for the first joint committee meeting to be in January 2024 at the Memphys Centre.

13. **Any Other Urgent Business** –

Newsletter -LW thanked June Juett for her offer to help with the Newsletter. **JJ requested a meeting with her to make a final decision.**

Burton Overy Christmas Tree Festival - RE reported that each group that met in Burton Overy was to be asked to make a contribution to the raffle. The committee agreed to contribute a copy of the Christmas Book and a bottle of wine. **JF & JJ to arrange the wine purchase and delivery to BO village hall.**

14. **Next Meeting:** Tuesday 5th December 2023 in the Ruth Warner Room at 2.15 p.m.

The meeting ended at 3.30 pm.