

Hastings & Rother U3A

Minutes of Committee Meeting

held at 10.30 on Thursday 4th July 2019 at St Peter's Community Centre, Bexhill

Present

Robert Hadland
Kenneth Saunders
Chris Legg

Gail Oswald
Patricia Jobling
Lesley Almond

Valerie Greenwood
Shirley Carey
Carol Crossley

1. Apologies for absence

Barbara Spackman, Jenny Meteyard, Brian Gould, Lynda Wood, Sue Deeks, Jean Bennett

2. Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the last meeting held on 30th May 2019 were agreed to be an accurate record and were signed by the Chair.

3. Matters arising (not covered in the agenda)

None.

4. Reports

a) Chair's Report:

AGM arrangements:

Tricia said that a cheque was needed on the day to pay for the food delivery for £235. All other arrangements were in hand. Robert will sort out the Tea Gang and clearing the tables. Sue Dyke will sort out the kitchen. If some people bring tombola prizes it was agreed that these would be kept until the Christmas party, and signing in sheets need to be arranged with the reception team.

PJ
RH

Recruitment of volunteers:

Following Robert's email to newer members there had been a good response and the following members had contacted him: Liz Skelton, Lesley Almond, Mike Wilson and George Webster (possible vice Chair, and Robert will meet with him). Robert said that he was looking at the sharing of some roles, maybe using the term deputy.

RH

Ken explained the constitution regarding the Executive committee i.e. four elected officers and a maximum of a further eight committee members, plus two further co-opted members to be elected at the next AGM.

Update on Dame Stella Rimington event:

So far 173 tickets have been sold and any spare tickets after the AGM could be offered to Rye and Battle U3As. Chris and Robert will liaise re reserving places. There was also an issue raised about the college meal suppliers and whether they would be local, but it was agreed we needed to go with the college suppliers.

RH
CL

Summer Newsletter:

Robert expressed his thanks to Rosemary for her work on this. He said that he had only had two emails where the newsletter had not arrived (one member of a couple and one member).

Tricia said the database with 713 members had been checked with the printers and was correct. The problem would appear to be with the post office delivery.

Year-end Accounts:

Robert explained that Jean was recovering slowly and it was unlikely that the full accounts would be ready for the AGM. Gail Oswald said that she was meeting with Jean next week. The correct balances will be given at the AGM but the full accounts would need to be agreed at an EGM. This could be fitted in to one of the general meetings and notice of the EGM would be published formally in the newsletter. Robert will explain at the AGM the reason for the reduction in subscription to £12. Richard will be asked to arrange the change of treasurer email after the AGM.

RH
GO**Report from Treasurer:**

Covered in previous item.

Report from Vice Chair re Dr Mucci:

Dr Mucci works with Kevin Kraymer at the Conquest hospital and will give her talk on Frailty at a meeting arranged by our U3A on Wednesday 23rd October in the Sussex Hall at the White Rock Theatre. It was agreed that we would invite both Rye and Battle U3A. Dr Mucci also has fifteen people who have requested another opportunity to hear her talk.

SD
RH**Report from Venues Co-ordinator:**

The Sussex Hall at the White Rock Theatre has been reviewed. It will hold up to 230 people, with a lift down to the lower floor, and there is parking in three car parks and meters (which cost £1.30 for four hours). There is parking allowed for the speaker, book stall and other stall holders in the White Rock Hotel. The Azur contract finishes following the September meeting and a letter will be sent confirming the new booking by Ken (Carol will draft the details for the letter).

CC
KS**Report from Speaker Secretary:**

The programme has been agreed and Richard will liaise with Rosemary and the printers for the bookmark to go out with the next newsletter.

BS
RC**Report from Membership Secretary:**

Chris reported that there were 714 Members at present and that 45 members had already renewed.

Report from Website Co-ordinator:

The hit list will be looked at in more detail when the new committee is in place and linked to any discussions relating to full groups.

Report from Business Secretary:

Ken apologised for not sending letter re TAT wrapper as he could not find in the national mailings who to write to. Carol said it was in the TAT magazine. He also reported that following the distribution of the volunteer list he had received a number of amendments. He has updated the master copy but will not send out a new list until after the AGM as many changes will be required then.

KS

Report from Groups Co-ordinator:

Valerie said she has met with Lynda Wood and that Tricia and Sue will offer support. She will arrange with Richard for the email address to be changed and is happy to advise if required after the AGM.

VG

Robert raised the issue of room sizes for groups to be looked at next year. The Convenors tea this year had been very successful although 7 members did not attend, and it was not known why. There was an issue over how to deal with full group waiting lists and members who only come occasionally. The issue of waiting lists and the number of groups is a major concern for the new committee.

Newsletter and publicity:

See above discussion.

SUN and Regional Information:

Shirley was very concerned that they were not using Sedlescombe this year and there was no proper explanation for this. She had raised this at the meeting and complained that the nearest one would be at Hailsham. Valerie will be taking over this role after the AGM. Shirley said there was concern nationally about U3As folding as they could not get committee members.

SC
VG

5. Any Other Business:

Book Promotion

Robert said that he had been contacted by Steve Hall who draws the cartoons for the newsletter as he wanted to promote his book. He had also been approached by John Watson who has published a book on Films and Cinemascope. It was agreed that they could promote their books but not sell them at the meeting

RH

National AGM:

Sue will be going to Nottingham with another member as agreed previously.

6. Next Committee meeting to be arranged following the AGM on 22nd July.

Signed

Date

Minutes were taken by Ken Saunders.