# Kings Norton & District



# Minutes of the Committee Meeting Tuesday 21 March 2023

**Present:** Vicki Hone (Acting Chair), Beryl Blood, Lorna Brown, Pauline George, Helen Kempster, Chris Locke, Margaret Lusher, Pauline Amor.

# 1. Welcome & Apologies (VH)

VH welcomed all to the meeting. There were no apologies.

# 2. Minutes of the February meeting (VH)

Amendments were noted as follows:

**Item 4** The donation to St Mary's Hospice totalled £100, including £41 collected at the February General Meeting.

**Item 8** BB had approached George Dixon about joining the committee, but he is unable to do so.

**Item 13** PG had contacted IG Leaders to remind them to contact VH for the new code for accessing Zoom.

The minutes, as amended, were agreed.

## 3. Matters arising (VH)

Item 3 LB had been in contact with Wendy Bird concerning the article for Bournville Pages. WB had provided a copy of the article which had been included in the South Birmingham pages, apologizing for the non-inclusion in the Bournville edition, together with an invoice for payment of £30 for the item in the Community Page listing (6 months @ £5). It was agreed that the CL should pay the invoice and the matter be closed. Item 8 LB had taken the u3a mugs to the March Showcase, where PG had bought the only 2 mugs sold. LB would take them again to the April General Meeting.

## 4. Chair's report (VH)

The Showcase had been a real success with 106 members and 57 visitors attending. VH thanked PG, the Committee and the IG Leaders for their work.

VH is still awaiting details to be changed for her as contact/administrator for u3a by National Office. LB noted that she had received an email from National Office just as she was leaving for the committee meeting, which she will check later.

# 5. Election of new West Midlands Trustee (VH)

Allan Walmsley is giving up his role as West Midlands Trustee following his election to Vice Chair.

There are 3 candidates for the role, and KNu3a has 2 votes. VH will vote in accordance with the Committee decision.

CL

LB

LB

VH

# 6. Courses and workshops available from National Office (VH)

VH is keen that KN u3a members become more involved in the wider u3a. She noted the Summer Schools and other workshops publicised in the most recent edition of TAM as an example of the benefits available.

Whilst information about TAM and these courses/workshops could be featured in a newsletter, the timing of the next newsletter would be too late. It was agreed that VH would include the information in her email to members about the April General Meeting, and in her announcements at the meeting. ML would also post information on the website.

VH ML

# 7. Treasurer's report (CL)

CL had circulated a financial report for the part year to the end of February 2023 prior to the committee meeting.

He now expects the deficit for the year to end March 2023 to be approximately £3,500 excluding membership renewal fees, less than previously expected. He anticipates reserves of c £7,000 at the end of the year, compared to reserves of c£6,900 at the start of the year.

He noted that membership renewals were going well. The increase in level of membership fees will help with the anticipated increases in room hire charges.

CL said that he had received receipts from the Image Shapers IG Leader, but not yet any invoices for room hire. PG advised that this IG was the first IG to use the Hawkesley Community Centre venue which may account for the delay in invoices. The group meets there twice a month.

# 8. Membership and renewals (ML)

ML advised that membership numbers totalled 308, with 21 joining since 1 March. 166 members had renewed, with 142 outstanding. The renewal process was going well, with only 3 queries relating to 2 post-dated cheques and one apparent underpayment of £20. 4 members had joined from the Network, paying £20 for Associate Membership, in order to attend general meetings.

ML will send a reminder about membership renewal before the April General Meeting.

ML

## 9. Date for new members' coffee morning (VH/ML)

It was agreed to hold a coffee morning for new members at the Toby Carvery on Saturday 22 April. VH will book the venue and ML will invite all new members since 26 November (date of last coffee morning). VH will also invite Anne Jones, Beacon Administrator.

VH/ML VH

# 10. Membership for carers and taster visits to Interest Groups (All)

These issues had arisen following enquiries at the Showcase.

It was agreed that carers could attend general meetings and Interest Groups to support members and were covered by u3a insurance, except where they were professional carers when they would be covered by their own insurance. Members attending with the support of carers were expected to be able to participate in the IG activity.

LB would check further regarding insurance cover for non-members attending Interest Groups for taster sessions as the policy document held did not appear to cover such arrangements.

VH proposed that the committee discuss the u3a's policy document on Accessibility at a future committee meeting.

# 11. Interest Groups and Harborne u3a Spring Fair Wed 5th April (PG)

PG shared email correspondence from Roger Jones concerning administration of IGs where there are non-KNu3a members (ie Network members). It was agreed to consider the issues raised at the next committee meeting.

BB had attempted to set up a third Philosophy IG but potential members had not turned up and she was not going to pursue the matter further.

LB

VH had had an approach from someone, who was not yet a member, interested in setting up an Italian IG – conversation and potentially teaching. VH will email her with PG's details and copy PG in.

VΗ

The Recorders IG has resumed; the Keyboard IG is now suspended.

PG was very impressed by the effort made by IG Leaders for the Showcase, and members who had brought along their friends. The Network Coordinators Anne (Kings Heath & Moseley) and Veronica (Harborne & Edgbaston) had attended and were impressed. Veronica has invited KNu3a members to the H & E u3a Spring Fair at the Harborne Baptist Church 2-4pm Wednesday 5 April.

# 12. Show Case Review (All)

All agreed that the Showcase had been a great success, with 106 members and 57 visitors attending. 13 new members joined.

For a future event, demonstrations and/or activities should be carefully chosen and limited with gaps between each so that members & visitors get adequate time and space to look at displays and socialize. It was agreed that similar events would be held every 2 or 3 years.

# 13. April meeting and the sound system (All)

Steve Wright had been very helpful in sorting out the sound system at the Showcase. The batteries in hand-held microphones had been changed. LB and VH will check the system before the April meeting.

LB/VH

VH stated that it was important that all items of equipment should be left in the locked cupboard, and signed for if removed. In particular, the microphones must be available there. PG advised that the laptop and projector were used by the History and Family History groups at their venues on the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays respectively. They are brought to St Josephs on 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday and Bournville QMH on 3<sup>rd</sup>.

PA will call Philip Caine to confirm his talk for the meeting on 4 April.

PΑ

## 14. May meeting and AGM (All/LB)

LB had circulated a timetable for actions in preparation for the AGM on 2 May. She will email members by the end of the week, inviting nominations for the committee and motions for the agenda.

LB/CL

LB

Papers including minutes of the last AGM and accounts need to be prepared for distribution to members with the agenda on 11 April.

VH asked for help from committee members for preparing the annual report.

ML will update the AGM page on the website.

ML

#### 15. Any other business (All)

# (1) Newsletter

HK advised that she would bring forward the date for distributing the next newsletter to 15 April in order to include an item on the AGM. She would need contributions by Wednesday 5 April HK

# (2) Emergency contact detail cards

Roger Jones' offer to produce cards at 3p per card, or provide template for members to produce their own, was deferred for discussion at the next committee meeting.

# (3) Post graduate students

LB had received contact from 2 post graduate students. One was seeking publicity for her work – which could be given via website, newsletter and distribution at general meeting. The 2<sup>nd</sup> student was doing a PHD at Oxford, Nuffield Research Centre Primary Care – researching why people stop taking prescribed medications. She had visited Croydon u3a and LB proposed that she

be invited to the June general meeting to talk briefly. This can be considered further at the next committee meeting.

# 16. Date of next meeting

2pm Tuesday 18 April 2023 at Bournville Quaker Meeting House.

The meeting ended at 4.45pm.