

MINUTES
Committee



Meeting

Wednesday, 20th March, 2024

Present:

Stuart Kirkman (Chair)
Robert Baker
Pat Bright
Jane Clarke

Roger Darling
Sue Jones
John Latham
Irene Molyneux

Janice Parr
Ted Southworth
Kate Williams

In Attendance:

Ann (Chair) and Jane (Partnerships Development Officer) from West Pennine Villages

1. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Sam Hoyle, Stephen Doyle and Marie Gornell.

2. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday, 21st February, 2024 were agreed as an accurate record.

3. Matters Arising

- 3.1 Stuart extended a warm welcome to Ann and Jane from West Pennine Villages who were attending the meeting.
- 3.2 Following the extension of the period of membership renewal, it was reported that this is working very well.
- 3.3 The two concerns outlined in item 11 of the February Committee Meeting to do with use of MVH have now been discussed by MVH Trustees. The results are –
 - Their constitution states that a funeral for a local Mawdesley person takes precedence over anything else. They will refund any booking fees but are not able to refund fees for professional tutors or speakers.
 - They assure us they would never cancel an existing booking in favour of an event which benefitted the hall.

We have agreed to try and improve communication in the future and they have agreed to try and only cancel group bookings when absolutely necessary.

4. Business Secretary's Report

Jane read out relevant details from an email forwarded by Sam.

5. Treasurers's Items

Roger previously circulated his figures to all committee members. He asked Pat to email group leaders to ask that they send invoices straight to him.

6. Feedback from New Members' Lunch

Sixty five members attended the lunch, including committee members. It was unanimously agreed that this had been very successful. It was suggested that name stickers would be useful at any future new members' lunch. One of the new members had broached the idea of a motorcycle group but Stuart looked into this and ruled it out due to public liability insurance.

7. Website - Sam and Stephen

Stephen reported via email that we are on the waiting list to change the website to WordPress but it will not be for several months at least.

8. Talk on Inheritance Tax

A lady from a firm of solicitors had made an approach suggesting coming to give a talk on inheritance tax. Following discussion it was felt that we must be cautious regarding this. It might be more appropriate for someone from Citizens Advice to come along as they would be completely impartial. Stuart will contact Stephen and ask him to speak to the lady and find out more before any decision is made.

9. Vote for Trustee for the NW

Two candidates have put their names forward for the position of Trustee for the above position. David Blanchflower from Aughton and Ormskirk U3A is one of these and Christine has been approached to second his nomination. Each U3A has a vote and, as the closing date for voting was imminent, Stuart has voted for Mr Blanchflower on our behalf.

10. Local Life Misunderstanding

A misunderstanding had occurred between the February and March committee meetings. This resulted in a somewhat threatening email from the "Local Life" magazine which Stuart was obliged to deal with at short notice. In an effort to smooth ruffled feathers Stuart emailed them quickly clarifying the points raised.

11. Reception - Slight Changes

Due to lack of time this item has been deferred until the next meeting.

12. Any Other Business

None.

Date of next meeting: Wednesday, 17th April, 2024

J. Clarke