

Minutes Mull & Iona U3A Committee Meeting 11am Monday 15th May 2023 at Jess's

1) Present.

Linda Littlewood - Chair

Jess Bowman- Treasurer.

Brik Halcrow- Vice Treasurer

Ron Blacoe- Business Sec.

Shirley Blacoe - Comm Member, Newsletter editor, Webmaster

2)Apologies.

Dee Leach, Joy Roberts.

3)Minutes of Last Meeting.

Accepted by Linda Littlewood, seconded by Brik Halcrow.

4) Matters Arising.

4a) Meeting Check List. This has been completed, Linda to collate and send to all Committee Members.

ACTION LINDA

4af) Mess Grant Application.

Mull & Iona U3A applied to MESS for a grant and this has been successful, £500 being granted. The grant is designed to allow us to repeat a previous successful membership drive.

This will involve obtaining speakers that will attract a wider range of interest groups , run a series of advertisements in Round and About, print and distribute leaflets and attend local craft markets with publicity materials.

4bB)Generic email Address. Linda has set this up :- mullandionau3a@outlook.com

Shirley & Ron to monitor .

ACTION SHIRLEY & RON

4bC) Update Facebook account to make more welcoming , carried out by Brik & Jess.

4bD) Using Members Photographs for Publicity.

Ron completed an on line questionnaire and with one exception all members were agreeable.

The membership form has been changed to include :-

Do we have your explicit permission to use photographs of yourself in any publications such as Newsletter, Website, or any advertising leaflets we may produce?

Yes / No

The Committee agreed to the wording and Ron will send a copy to all Committee Members.

ACTION RON ---Done.

4bE) Editable Poster for Tabletop Stand. Linda's example was discussed and suggestions concerning text visibility made, but overall the poster was OK . Linda will send updated version to the Committee for comment and investigate stickers for amending the poster as required.

ACTION LINDA.

AOB item 3) Questionnaire to Members. Linda to send examples of questions for Committee to consider.

ACTION LINDA.

5)Correspondence.

Mess grant application successful. Various emails re sustaining U3As and their Committees.

6)Chairman's Report.

None.

7)Secretary's Report.

Ron has been registered as Mull & Iona U3A's official voter at the National AGM on 18th October.

8)Treasurer's Report.

£670 in the bank, £50 petty cash, £500 grant from Mess.

Only outstanding bill is £41 for copywriter and other bills to come eg leaflet printing, hall hire, speakers expenses /gift, Round & About etc.

Craignure and Salen Hall hire fees are now approximately equal.

9) Open Meeting 1st June.

Shirley will check with Dee re speaker requirements, etc.

ACTION SHIRLEY.

10)Mess Grant – best way to use.

Keep check list of where it is spent.

ACTION LINDA & JESS.

Mess logo to be put on website.

ACTION SHIRLEY.

Mess logo to be put on our Facebook page.

ACTION LINDA.

Increase annual membership fee by £1 to £16 as previously agreed.

Write to Membership informing them of the successful grant application.

ACTION LINDA.

11)Increasing Membership.

Agreed that we must increase our visibility by the following actions:-

a) Attend Island markets with the stand and new leaflets, initially discover dates.

ACTION LINDA and then organise committee members to attend.

ACTION ALL COMMITTEE.

b) Insert "advert" in June's Round and About concerning future Open Meetings and outing to Dunollie Castle, Oban on Thursday 6th July.

ACTION SHIRLEY & BRIK.

c) Website to be kept up to date with future events and group leaders encouraged to set future dates.

ACTION SHIRLEY.

d) Presuming the Dunollie event is a success consider further similar outings in the future.

ALL COMMITTEE.

e) Geology Group. The possibility of a theory group was discussed.

ACTION RON to decide if possible.

f) New Nature Group.

This was discussed but a possible group leader was not identified.

12)Committee Members.

Present members of the committee are coming to the end of their tenure either by decision or by the rules as set out in the Constitution.

After much discussion the following actions were agreed:-

a) Discuss at all group meetings.

ACTION ALL COMM. MEMBERS.

b) Invite observers to next Comm. Meeting on 3rd July at Linda's.

Via Newsletter.

ACTION SHIRLEY & LINDA

Via email in June .

ACTION RON

Send agenda for 3rd July meeting to all membership

ACTION RON

c)Put latest Comm. Meeting Minutes on website.

ACTION SHIRLEY.

13) Updating the Table top Stand.

This needs to be refreshed, making it far less “busy” and more relevant.

Agreed to be done for the August 3rd Open Meeting.

ACTION LINDA.

14)Beacon.

As of now only Ron as Membership sec. and administrator and Jess as Treasurer use Beacon, which makes both of their roles much easier.

Although it was agreed that there could be some benefit for group leaders and the groups coordinator the proscribed use of BCC in emails was seen as a drawback by not facilitating car sharing in the large geographical area of Mull & Iona U3A.

There was also discussion of providing personnel backup for the present Beacon roles but no definite decision was reached.

AOB

Next Meeting, 11am on Monday 3rd July at Linda's.