



## Minutes of Perth u3a Committee Meeting

Held on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2023 at 10am in Unit 7

### Present

Robert Proctor (chair)	RP	Joan Fraser	JF
Sue Hendry	SH	Ray Hodgson	RH
Dave Smith	DS	Trevor Abell	TA
Graham Dry	GD	Wilma Coleman	WC

### 1. Apologies

Bill Younger, Irene Twinn, Yvonne Connell, Bob Thomson.

### 2. Approval of Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2023 were approved – proposed by DS, seconded by GD.

### 3. Matters Arising

DS noted that the ceiling panel had been duly fitted. The blinds have been ordered and are expected within a few weeks.

### 4. Admin Matters

#### a) Treasurer's report

The Treasurer had sent her apologies but had indicated that as for October, the accounts are in good order and there are no concerns. A revised set of accounts will be provided for the next meeting.

#### b) Group Co-ordinator's Report

RH noted that it had been extremely quiet on the group side and there is really nothing to report.

#### c) Membership Report

DS provided details of the current membership. The figures are very encouraging with additional members joining over the month to bring the current total to 469 (470 including the one Hon Life Member) and a total income for membership subs

to £11,725. This should be compared to the target membership of 450 and an income of £11,250. Total new members this year is 90 and the percentage of existing members that renewed is 85.4%. We are now back to the pre-Covid levels.

#### **d) Accommodation Co-ordinator's Report**

WC noted that the reported leak is still evident in the corner of Unit 7. This was reported some weeks ago to the building management (David Kettles).

#### **5. Christmas Lunch**

GD reported that plans are going well. A total of £1,449.50 has been received and details have been sent to the restaurant covering 55 guests. Members have been asked to send cheques made payable to Perth U3A or to forward cash to himself.

#### **6. Timetable**

RP had circulated a proposed timetable to the committee prior to the meeting. The start would be September 2<sup>nd</sup>. There was discussion on when the Registration Day should be planned. An earlier suggestion had been made for registration and the first open meeting taking place on the same day (Sept 2<sup>nd</sup>). General consensus was that this would be difficult to manage and instead it was suggested that we should look to Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> August as the Registration Day. Following the Xmas break at the end of 2024, the start of Open Meetings would be Monday January 13<sup>th</sup> 2025.

RH raised the issue of the timing for the Group Leaders Meeting. He thought that this could be either on a Monday or a Friday – dates suggested were Monday 18<sup>th</sup>/25<sup>th</sup> of March or Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March. It was proposed that we should, if possible, go with 18<sup>th</sup> March.

RH reminded the meeting that at the last Group Leaders' Meeting in March David Combe had proposed changing from the existing 4-week calendar to the conventional calendar as some members were apparently confused by it. The committee had undertaken to sound out group leaders as to their preferred meeting calendar and accordingly he (RH) was about to e-mail all group leaders to begin the survey. Post-meeting note: all group leaders were contacted on 22<sup>nd</sup> November inviting their views by 31<sup>st</sup> December. RH also observed that Unit 7 is available throughout the year, so if groups need to organise extra meetings – it should not be a major issue.

It was agreed that an early circular should go out with details of all the Open Meeting dates, Registration Day and the Group Leaders Day.

#### **7. AOB**

RH had been approached by one Group Leader to ask if the coffee/tea provided in Unit 7 should be paid for. WC confirmed that no payment was required.

RP had been informed by the Semi-tones music group that they would like to put on a Christmas concert at St Marks Letham. This would obviously be welcomed but it would be made clear that the hire charge for the hall would have to be met by the group as they already receive more than average financial support.

WC asked if Nicola Sturgeon had been confirmed as a forthcoming open meeting speaker, as she would need to alert St Matthew's management to the possibility of significant press attendance. GD noted that he had been in contact with Nicola Sturgeon's secretary and was due to go back to him for further discussion. GD now felt that having such a high-profile guest speaker would lead to too many problems in terms of the press wanting to gain access and the inevitable security issues. It was therefore agreed that, on balance, it would be best to drop the idea.

RH noted that he is in the process of making minor edits to the Group Leaders Handbook

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 10.50 am

**The next meeting was proposed for January 9<sup>th</sup> 2024.**