



Membership Number 822/801/22

RETFORD U3A COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday 4th April at 2.00 p.m
At Community Room, Morrisons

MINUTES

Present: Pippa Ramsay (Acting Chair), Pamela Mann (Secretary), Patricia Everitt (Treasurer), Sue Paul (Membership Secretary), Pat Lockett (Trainee Membership Secretary)

Apologies: Bryan Gladstone, Carol Knowles, Caroline Marsh, Angela Grant

1. Minutes of previous meeting

These were signed by Pippa Ramsay in the absence of Bryan Gladstone as a true and accurate record.

2. Matters Arising

Pippa will ask Angela Grant to contact Kevin Murphy when convenient to enter him as a Speaker for early next year. (2024)

3. General Meeting

The last General Meeting went down very well with members. "Drive On" proved to be a most interesting topic and several people took up their offer of an accompanied drive so they could correct any glaring faults.

At the next Annual General Meeting, Bryan agreed to step down as Chair and become Vice Chair, while Pippa would become Chair. Angela Grant will become Speaker Finder and Pat Lockett will take over as Membership Secretary. It was hoped that Chrissie Cook would stay on as Newsletter Editor, Roger Stenson as Stationery Supplies, and Andrew Young as Webmaster.

4. Financial Report (see attached)

Patricia confirmed that Retford u3a was in a better financial position than at the end of March 2022, when subscriptions were down because of the Covid Pandemic but payment of the Capitation fee to Third Age Trust was still payable.

Patricia was willing to finance 2 laptops for the new Chair and Membership Secretary subject to expert recommendation of what to purchase. 2 more laptops for the Secretary and Treasurer would follow. A new form was handed to Pippa to give to Angela as new Speaker Finder, which any Speaker requesting a donation to a charity must sign so Retford u3a stays within the 3rd Age Trust's guidelines.

Santander: Note from the Treasurer. When the change to single cheque signatory and single authority online transactions become the practice, once the move from HSBC to Santander Bank is accomplished, the Committee agreed that the prior practice of dual signatory/authorisation will be satisfied by discussion/e-mail confirmation between any two of the three authorised officers of the Committee, being Chair, Secretary and Treasurer.

5. Interest Groups Report

A 3rd Book Group has begun meeting. Does it have a new name to differentiate it from the other 2. (Carol and Caroline to check)

Singing and Fun with Flowers were 2 groups whose funds were much reduced. Patricia was willing to inject a small amount of cash to keep them in the black.

Some groups in Nottinghamshire have begun employing paid tutors for courses in Yoga and Mindfulness. While this goes against the ethos of the u3a, it is not all that different to paying for Speakers at General Meetings and, provided enough members were keen to take up such an interest and were willing to pay a sum of money for each session, it might be something we could consider. Announce at a General Meeting after the AGM? The Committee recommended that an announcement be made at the AGM asking anyone with ideas for a group we don't currently have to come forward, also anyone willing to lead a new group.

6. Newsletter

The Committee wishes to congratulate Bryan Gladstone on his successful edition of the Not So Idle Times in March and to thank him for stepping into the breach to cover for Chrissie Cook, who was ill due to surgery. Sue agreed to contact Chrissie to see whether she would be able to compile April's edition, as Bryan was willing to fill her role again if needed. While "Their Finest Hour" would be acceptable to go in the Newsletter, the Tuxford Windmill appeal for volunteers could not be accepted for publication. However Sue agreed to create a poster for the Notice Board at the AGM.

7. Website

The Website is running well with lots of information for people to access easily.

8. Publicity

Could Carol and Caroline bring spare leaflets to the AGM and put them on every 2nd seat so members can be asked to take them home and give them to a friend?

Events: Bryan was invited as a guest to a Rotary Club dinner. Maybe they will ask him to speak at one of their meetings in the future. On 25 May, Sloswicke's Almshouse Charity will be formally opening new units on Union Street and have invited one member of the Committee to attend. Bryan is willing to attend. The Macular Society has invited someone to speak to their members on 3rd August, 10.30-12.00. Bryan has expressed his willingness to attend, but perhaps the Committee could help by putting forward ideas for a general talk which can be given to any group or organisation.

9. Communications

The Data Protection Policy was adopted, with a date 2 years hence for review. It now needs sending out to all group leaders so they are aware of their responsibility to keep data safe.

The designated Data Protection Officer will be Pat Lockett

10. Membership Update

Full members 489, Associates 19 and Honorary 16. Total 524.

Honorary members, who pay no fees, are taken off the list if membership forms are not returned when requested, every 2 or 3 years. Arnold has a system of Membership cards with bar codes, which is something to be considered for the future. Pat Lockett, the new Membership Secretary will contact her opposite number in Arnold to find out in detail how the system works and how they check for renewals. Andrew Young has now sorted out Beacon.

11. Welfare

Information about Carers is to be sent out to all group leaders by Carol and Caroline, Group Co-ordinators. A driver can drive a member to the Cinema and also watch the film, as long as they pay for their own ticket. See also item 4 of March's Minutes.

12. Events

64 people have booked for the Golf Club dinner on 14 April, so it is now fully booked.

13. Any Other Business

Notts Network meetings: 26 April at Ravenshead Village Hall. Pippa and Pat will attend.
26 July by Zoom.

14. Date of next meeting

Tuesday 2nd May 2023 at 2.00 in Community Room, Morrisons.

The meeting ended at 4.10p.m.

Signed by Pippa Ramsay, Chair

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Date