



Membership number 822/801/10

RETFORD U3A COMMITTEE MEETING
Held on 7 November 2023 at 2.00 p.m.
At Community Room, Morrisons

MINUTES

Present: Bryan Gladstone (Vice Chair), Patricia Everitt (Treasurer), Pat Lockett (Membership Secretary), Carol Knowles, Caroline Marsh (joint Groups Co-ordinators), Pam Mann (Secretary), Pippa Ramsay (Chair), Lorraine Sulman (Speaker Finder)

Apologies: Sue Paul (Social)

1. Minutes of previous meeting

These were signed by the Chair as a true and accurate record.

2. Matters Arising

The committee agreed that Membership Secretary should send e-mails to everyone who had ticked the box for receipt of Third Age Matters to ask if they still wished to get it.

3. General Meeting

It was noted that the Central Screen at the Well, which had been very poor, was now much clearer, not perfect but better than before.

The Committee wished to congratulate the Watercolour group on the paintings they displayed at October's meeting.

Tim Shuldham, the speaker from the Slockwicke's Almshouse Charity was very well received and was seen by 90 attendees.

The speaker for November will be David Skillen, giving a talk 'Pilots and Petticoats'.

A headphone for the use of speakers is to be investigated by the Vice Chair to make sure it is compatible with the Well's speaker system before purchase.

Carol Knowles will ascertain the number of tables required and notify the Secretary so they can be ordered in good time for November's meeting.

4. Speaker Finder Update

There is now a full programme of Speakers until July 2024 apart from the AGM. Bryan Gladstone is willing to give a talk at the AGM. Pat Lockett also has a talk if required.

5. Financial Report

The Treasurer needs a deputy as soon as possible to learn the ropes in time to succeed her as Treasurer when her term of office ends.

The Treasurer confirmed that all major outgoings had now been paid.

Military History group's account was inflated as they had taken deposits for a 3 day trip next May.

Retford u3a could only apply to Third Age Trust for a grant after March 2024 as their grant system operates from Jan to the following March.

Jean Hogg, from Notts Network will invoice us shortly for our contribution to the Network.

6. Interest Groups Report

The Group Co-ordinators will contact Kate Evans about the proposed new Short Easy Walks group, and also Jean Winder to check if it would be different from Strollers Walking group. They confirmed that Carol would e-mail Pat Trotter to see if she was going forward with a Whist Group. UPDATE The Whist Group is not now happening.

Angela Grant wanted to form a Music Group.

There might be a Local Historical Landscape group if there was enough interest.

Retford people had been invited to attend Worksop's Tai Chi group but some were unwilling to travel so far, especially in winter so Retford had abandoned the idea.

Air Fryer group – Sue Ross was willing to host this but did not want to be Leader/facilitator.

Book Group 4 – Caroline Marsh will meet them in November.

A new Bridge Group requires a leader/facilitator. Caroline will put a notice in NSIT.

A new wine group called Even More Wine is to be set up by Pat Lockett.

The Philosophy Group – This group has a waiting list and new people will be taken on as space becomes available. If the list grows then a new group Introduction to Philosophy may be started.

Military History Group now has 13 other u3as attending its meetings via Zoom.

7. Newsletter

Christine Cook was thanked for putting the Newsletter together each month.

The Chair wished to see any articles that the Committee intended to put into NSIT so she could check that it would not duplicate what was in her Chairman's report.

8. Website

No items to discuss. Andrew Young, our Webmaster, was keeping an eye on changes and developments, for which the Committee gave their thanks.

9. Publicity

Facebook page – Pat Lockett asked for permission to buy an 0300 number which could be put on the u3a profile page to avoid any committee member being overwhelmed if their personal numbers were included. Answering such a number would be shared by 3 people. Approved. Group pictures were needed to put on the Facebook page to keep up interest. Always with regard to the Data Protection Policy. Pat Lockett would organise this.

10. Communications

The AGM for the Third Age Trust was attended by the Chair. Third Age Trust was keen to modernise so the Committee decided to review the existing Constitution in the light of changes to the model constitution on TAT’s website.

Notts u3as were thinking of paying for an advert on radio, but the question arose as to who should pay for it? Each of the Notts u3as or Notts Network?

11. Membership Update

520 Members in total. 484 full members, 15 Honoraries and 21 Associates.

12. Welfare

Nothing to discuss.

13. Events

The next Big Night Out will be on 12th January 2024.

14. Any Other Business

Group Leaders are to be asked whether they would like to have the spare notice boards and find somewhere to keep them. Otherwise they will be disposed of.

15. Date of Next meeting

5th December 2023 at 2.00 p.m. This meeting closed at 4.15 p.m.

Signed by the Chair

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Date.....