



Membership number 822/801/10

RETFORD U3A COMMITTEE MEETING
Tuesday 6th February 2024 at 2.00 p.m.
At Hallcroft Community Centre

MINUTES

Present: Pippa Ramsay (Chair), Bryan Gladstone (vice chair), Pam Mann (secretary), Patricia Everitt (treasurer), Pat Lockett (membership secretary), Caroline Marsh & Carol Knowles (groups co-ordinators), Lorraine Sulman (Speaker Finder)

Apologies: Sue Paul (Social)

1. Minutes of the Previous meeting

These were signed by Pippa Ramsay as a true and accurate record.

2. Matters arising

Making Music Group has changed its day of meeting. (See website)

A question on the wording of the new Constitution has been put to the Third Age Trust and is awaiting a response.

3. General Meeting

96 members attended the last General Meeting to hear Berry Merrick give an excellent talk about POWs in Italy and the people who helped them escape after the Italian Armistice. Her own father had been a POW.

At Feb General Meeting, Sam Millard will give a talk on The Rufford Poachers.

Pat Lockett asked if the Meeters and Greeters could point new members in her direction as her table was some distance from the entrance to the Well. The next new members' coffee morning is next Thurs at 10.30.

Problems with lukewarm coffee/tea at the Well: the committee decided to ask members at next general meeting to vote whether we keep the refreshments or not.

4. Speaker Finder Report

The list of speakers is complete up until June. Various suggestions were put forward for future speakers which Lorraine is looking into.

5. Financial Report (see attached)

The Treasurer reported that money was tight in the general account but the interest groups' account was healthy because of payments coming in for trips, especially Gardening group.

The Treasurer had calculated projected figures for the coming year. We should be able to cover all the basic costs but she would need to wait until the membership renewals have taken place.

The prospect of fundraising was raised and ideas are still being sought.

The committee agreed that all reports prepared for the AGM should be used to inform the Charity Commission, together with an independent auditor's report on our accounts.

Although there was some difficulty sending the annual report to the Charity Commission, this had now been rectified.

6. Interest Groups report

Michael Colburn wants to put an article in the Newsletter to encourage people to join a new group to talk about their mental health. It would be mainly aimed at men who live alone or are caring for a sick spouse.

A new e-bikes group is to be set up as e-bikes can travel further and faster than ordinary bikes. Meanwhile the cycling group is changing its programme each month to include short rides so that slower riders can be included.

Carol and Caroline have produced a new pack to issue to new group leaders with all the necessary information needed to run a group.

The walking groups have approved the new Policy on Dogs, which accompany their owners on walks. So has the member who wanted to take her 'hearing dog' on walks with the u3a.

7. Newsletter

In case of future illness of Chrissie Cook, the committee would like to have copies of her templates. Chrissie is in need of a new laptop to replace her old one which runs very slow. The committee approved this.

8. Website

Andrew Young reports that it could be up to another year before Retford gets the new version, which is currently being rolled out.

9. Publicity

Wetherspoons, apparently has a Community Notice Board. **Carol** is checking on this for displaying our leaflets.

10. Communications

Paul Bacon had pointed out to some committee members that individuals' phone numbers which had been put onto their accounts were vulnerable as they could be seen by others.

11. Membership

Total membership 537. Full members 498, honoraries 16 and associates 23.

Grants are available from various sources, including Bassetlaw DC, which might pay for coffees for the new members' coffee mornings. **Pat Lockett** will investigate.

Rampton Hospital has a People and Culture person, who gives pre-retirement talks to staff.

The committee thought that the information packs produced for the Promotion Afternoon a few months ago might be a useful tool to encourage newly retired staff to join the u3a.

12. Welfare

No items for discussion.

13. Events

The next Big Night out would be April 19th and was fully booked with a waiting list.
A member of both the u3a and the Golf Club had a complaint about the last meal and threatened the Golf Club with the removal of the u3a business, which he had no right to do.

14. Any Other Business

Patricia suggested putting together a list of where her u3a business could be found together with her passwords for her laptops in case anything should happen to her, as she lives alone. The committee agreed that we should **all** prepare something similar.
Carol and Pam both agreed to attend the Well's AGM on 21st February.

14. Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday 5th March at 2.00 p.m. at Hallcroft Community Centre.

The meeting ended at 4.35p.m.

Signed by:

Date:

P.M. Ramsay (chair)

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