

Minutes of the 274th Committee meeting held on Thursday 7th March 2024

At Stockport Sunday School

Present: Mrs. J Davies (Chair) Mr. A. Drysdale (Vice Chair) Mrs G Cameron (Treasurer) Mrs M, Gillespie (Secretary) Mr. K Jones (Webmaster) Mrs R Faulkner (Newsletter Editor) Ms. P Hadfield (Membership secretary) Mr. R. Higginbotham (Committee) Margaret Minns (Committee)

Apologies: Mrs. B Marriott (Committee)

Minutes of the last meeting 8th February were read and approved

Correspondence

Pauline informed the committee she had received a phone call from the Co-op funeral Company as a possible speaker, it was decided not to pursue this.

Finance Report

Bank and Building Society Figures as at 7/03/2024

Nat West Bank £ 4,893.05

Virgin Money £ 1,601.72

Vernon B Soc £13,680.72

Total £20,175.49

Number of members 319

Open meeting attendances March - 98

At the meeting yesterday, 59 members paid by either cash or cheque and 36 by card.

The figures include £500 for the 100 Club and £550 for Food Appreciation

Groups/Speakers

The committee had been approached to start another book group this will be number 4. Milly reported that we have 7 members interested and the intended venue will be the Dog & Partridge on Great Moor, she will report back at the next meet to inform the committee on the progress (MG)

The program for 2025 for speakers for our open meeting is now Full, this is mainly due to the success of the website and nearly all our speakers are selected by this method. As 1st Wednesday in 2025 is a Bank Holiday it was decided to have an Open meeting the week after 8th January, there will be no speaker, it will be a Meet & Greet and bring a friend tea & coffee will be provided and there will be no entrance fee.

New Website

This is now going ahead and has been signed off by the committee. Ken will attend at Zoom meeting on the 15th March to ensure we are kept up to date on the progress. If members would like to see the new website Buxton U3a are already using it. Once all the information had been gathered together, Ken will provide a demonstration for the committee. With all what has been happening with the website, currently Milly has no access, Ken will keep trying to resolve this, as it's important we have a backup for Ken.

Ken also mentioned we have a new portal for ordering the TAM magazines.

Any other business

AGM: it was mentioned by the Chairman that she was very pleased with the attendance and group leaders at the AGM. The business was kept to the minimum while we concentrated on the presentations by group leaders and committee members.

Joan brought quite a few points from the East Cheshire Chairs Group

- 1) To provide the group with a Speakers List for their open meetings Milly will organise this (MG)
- 2) A thank you, to our group leaders by providing an Afternoon Tea, it was decided to hold this on a Wednesday afternoon 2pm in August (Milly will contact SSS and find out dates) (MG)
- 3) A get together in the form of a Coffee morning for all members and friends we are hoping to plan this for May on a Thursday at 10:30 SSS, (Milly will sort out dates with SSS) (MG)
- 4) It was mentioned about other u3a's joining us on our Trips, we all agreed we have no problem filling our trips with our own members, the committee decided **not** to allow this.
- 5) Annual subscriptions for other u3a's Macclesfield charge £28 and Congleton charge £40 and they pay no other charges, Bramhall has 800 members and they only get 60 to their open meetings, it was agreed they run very differently to us as we pay for venues and they meet in private homes.

Discussion took place regarding advertising, Milly will investigate Stockport Council website and the what's on Magazine (MG) it was also discussed on trying to get the u3a in GP surgeries, this is on and going.

It was agreed to tidy up the website, we will be removing Science and Technology, Discussion and Computer Groups as we not able to support these groups currently. Ken will remove them (KJ)

Ruth reported that she had a quote for the printing of the Newsletter £30 for 60

Ruth mentioned there seemed to be a shortage of table space at the AGM, this was made worse as it was the AGM and more tables were required, Alex has only so many tables available to us. It was decided that we email out to group leaders, to contact Alex before the Open meeting if they require a table, Milly will send out the email (MG)

Meeting closed at 15:35

No date of next meeting was made as we are awaiting date for (members get- together) in May hopefully.

Ken will provide the refreshments including tea and coffee for the next meeting