

**Minutes of Tynedale u3a Committee Meeting  
held on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2020 at 2pm Via Video Link**

**Present:** David Pattinson, Kevin Stephens, Wendy Dale, Jane Perona-Wright, Alicia Cresswell, Barry Mellars, Tony Cooke, John Dark and Susan Turnbull.

No.	Activity	Action/ person
1	<p><b>Apologies for absence:</b> There were no apologies. There was an acknowledgement of Lynn Bangers withdrawal.</p>	
2	<p><b>Minutes of meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> March 2021</b> were taken as a true record with one alteration to item 10 – it was Tony who was asked to join the sub group not John.</p>	
3	<p><b>Matters Arising:</b> There were no matters arising.</p>	
4	<p><b>Chair's Report:</b> The letter that Wendy sent to the Hexham Courant refuting the idea that u3as don't want speakers on climate change, has now been published.</p> <p>Vice Chair – as discussed at the last meeting Barrie had volunteered to be Vice Chair and he was voted in unanimously.</p>	
5	<p><b>Business Secretary's Report:</b> All correspondence has been forwarded to the Committee.</p> <p>There was a discussion on the Third Age Trust's response to our revised Constitution. It was decided that we didn't need to add the precedent clause which they suggested and Susan will inform them.</p>	ST
6	<p><b>Treasurer's Report:</b> The only key difference to our numbers this month is the payment for our annual Beacon licence of £424. This is calculated by TAT based on a fee of £1 per member (current and associates).</p> <p>On other financial matters, all our new Barclays Bank signatories are now in place. We now have 3 committee members in addition to David enabled to approve online bank payments and sign cheques.</p> <p>There is an opportunity to sign up (for free) to 'Virgin Money Giving' which is a not-for-profit fundraising platform. It is not something we need at the moment but if we sign up to it, it would be available to use in the future if we wanted to. It was decided that</p>	DP

	David and Wendy would carry this forward.	WD
7	<p><b>Programme Secretary's Report:</b> 79 members attended the last monthly meeting and mixed comments have been received. Because of this Barrie wanted to set up a survey with Survey Monkey to try to find out what subjects our members would like. David said Tynedale u3a has a Survey Monkey account which Barrie could use. Barrie asked if there were other things we would like to add to give the survey a broader base. David suggested asking what prompted people to join and where did they find out about the u3a. Tony added that the TAT had carried out surveys and they were available to download from the TAT website. Wendy asked Barrie to write something for the newsletter.</p> <p>Tynedale u3a's Facebook page is now set up and ready to use. Barrie is happy to administer it but would like others to supply the content.</p> <p>DID – Barrie has had a lot of communication with Zoom about the problems with videos and as a result Zoom provided updated software which seems to have solved the problems. Barrie is happy to continue with DID.</p> <p>The subgroup formed to look into hybrid meetings will be going to the Abbey on 18<sup>th</sup> May to talk to them regarding the specific requirements for monthly meetings. David added that there was a national training event (on Zoom) on holding hybrid meetings which Barrie could attend if he wanted to.</p>	BM    DP BM SC
8	<p><b>Membership Secretary's Report:</b> There are 2 new members and John is learning to use Beacon. John is looking into the alternatives for membership cards and will come back at the June meeting with suggestions for the way forward. John queried the need for a membership pack as all the information needed was on the website.</p>	JD
9	<p><b>Publicity Officer and Website Manager's Report:</b> Tony, David and Kevin got together and allocated tasks to each. Kevin is going to design leaflets, David is going to work with Barrie on how to use the Facebook page and what to put on it and Tony is going to look at organisations that we might be able to work with. Despite receiving a lot of photos from Wendy Kevin is still short of appropriate visual material. He asked for photos that were faces and close-ups, and with people doing interesting things. He agreed to write something for the newsletter.</p>	KS DP TC  KS
10	<p><b>Newsletter Editor's Report:</b> There wasn't much material coming in for the newsletter but there is enough now. Alicia felt that there was no need for quizzes now that people are going out and about more.</p>	
11	<p><b>Group Liaison Secretary:</b> Jane announced, regretfully, that this would be her last attendance at the committee meetings because she is away in May and will very shortly after that be moving down south. As she is currently looking after all of the groups it would be important to find someone else to take on the role. Some groups are doing well others not so well. Jane has provided Wendy with a list of group's current status as she believes it to be. Wendy suggested that all of the convenors are invited to a Zoom meeting so we can get a feeling for how members feel about starting up again and what help they might need. Wendy and Jane will organise this, and Wendy asked for some members of the committee to attend as well – Susan and John volunteered.</p>	WD JPW ST JD

	<p>Wendy has tried to get someone for the role without success but felt it was important that the position was filled. The main objectives were maintenance of existing groups and development of new groups. The role could be changed to just one person or perhaps one person managed the groups and someone else did development, and they don't both need to be on the committee. Perhaps some events could be scheduled as tasters for groups. Wendy to meet with Tony to discuss that.</p> <p>Susan said that her Tai Chi group wanted to start up again after 17<sup>th</sup> May, as the road map said exercise groups would be able to meet inside. It was agreed that they could. Susan asked if it was necessary for a committee member to risk assess the Torch Centre again. Wendy said this was the sort of thing that could be discussed at a convenor's meeting.</p>	WD TC
12	<p><b>Event Secretary's Report:</b> It was agreed that there was not much time to arrange an event for u3a day on 2<sup>nd</sup> June. David said that he thought there was helpful information available from TAT and a zoom session that Tony could attend.</p> <p>David had an idea about asking members to take photos of themselves on u3a day which could be used for marketing purposes. There would need to be guidelines for what sort of photos to take ie faces, close-ups, people doing interesting things and the more action the better. Wendy suggested making it a competition! Kevin to include this in his piece for the newsletter</p> <p>Wendy had also been approached by Prudhoe u3a to put something in a local paper with them and Ryton – Kevin said he would take that on.</p> <p>It was agreed that would be enough for u3a day given the circumstances and it could be celebrated better next year when it is the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of TAT and the year after that is the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Tynedale u3a.</p>	KS  KS
13	<p><b>Regional and Third Age Trust:</b> David told us that there is a project called Future Lives regarding housing, care provision, combating ageism, and another called Slow Ways which is a walking scheme in partnership with u3a where members do walks and then comment on them.</p>	
14	<p><b>A.O.B.:</b> Wendy thanked Jane, who's job hadn't been easy with the Covid restrictions, wished her well for the future and said that we would miss her.</p>	
15	<p><b>Date and time for next meeting:</b> Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2021 at 2pm. Via video link.</p>	

Meeting ended at 15:25

Signed: *W Dale*

Dated: 2 June 2021