



Charity Registration Number: 515733

**Minutes of Tynedale u3a Committee Meeting
held on Thursday 24th June 2021 at 2pm Via Video Link**

Present: Kevin Stephens, Wendy Dale, Barrie Mellars, John Dark, Colin Argent and Susan Turnbull.

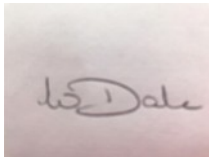
No.	Activity	Action/ person
1	Apologies for absence: David Pattinson and Alicia Cresswell.	
2	Minutes of meeting held on 27th May 2021 were accepted as a true record.	
3	Matters Arising: There were no matters arising.	
4	<p>Chair's Report: Wendy had learned from a regional chairs meeting that the appearance of Berwick u3a on television the day before u3a day was nothing to do with the day but an item that had been rescheduled from last year. She also found out there were many u3as, like us, in the region that chose not to do anything for the day.</p> <p>Wendy found out from the meeting that next year there are at least two u3as who are going to feature Hadrian's Wall for u3a day. She feels we should maybe work with them because Tynedale have the Hadrian's Wall Group. Wendy will get in touch with John Sandiford to see if we can develop something.</p>	WD
5	<p>Business Secretary's Report: All correspondence received has been sent out.</p> <p>The item on the Constitution postponed from last month was discussed and the Committee agreed that we are happy with our wording. Wendy will respond to the u3a office. Susan to send Wendy the emails for her to reply to.</p> <p>Susan sends the email out to invite members to the monthly meeting but is unable to do this on the Sunday before the next meeting and it was agreed she would send it out on the Friday before the meeting.</p>	ST/WD ST
6	<p>Treasurer's Report: David had submitted a report with good news.</p> <p>There were very few transactions through the accounts this month as has been the case for</p>	

	<p>most of the past year. Our finances remain in a healthy state.</p> <p>Our Gift Aid claim has now been paid by HMRC for the year ending 31st December 2020. The amount received was £946 (£950 last year). Our Zoom Pro licence has now been renewed for another year. The amount, including VAT, was £143.88.</p> <p>Thanks to the Regional Treasurer's Network, I have managed to secure the services of Noreen Freeman, Treasurer of Durham u3a, to act as our Accounts Examiner for this year's accounts.</p>	
7	<p>Programme Secretary's Report: There were 55 people at the last monthly meeting.</p> <p>Barrie is unable to come to the next monthly meeting but would like to hear the speaker, so would someone record it for him. Colin agree to do it.</p> <p>There was a problem with the free version of Survey Monkey only allowing access to 40 of the replies, so Barrie contacted them to find a way around the problem. They suggested he sign up for the monthly version then cancel it after he gets the information. The meeting agreed it was important to get the full results from the survey and agreed Barrie would do as suggested and claim the money back as expenses.</p> <p>Wendy asked whether she should reply to the person who was scathing about the survey. It was decided that it would be better not to.</p>	<p>CA</p> <p>BM</p>
8	<p>Membership Secretary's Report: There are 2 new members.</p> <p>John suggested the way forward for membership cards was to have them this year at a cost of £90, to produce them in white and laminated, which would last for years. We can then think about not doing them again in the future.</p> <p>He then asked if we would be using Eventbrite to book attendance at the September monthly meeting. There was some discussion and Barrie expressed concern that members would become inundated with adverts, and we would be accused of not being independent. Wendy didn't share the concerns but suggested we discuss it further at the next meeting when we have feedback from the survey, and we have the news of the restrictions expected for September.</p> <p>John was going to contact members in August to begin the process of membership renewal but suggested it might be better to start sooner. It was decided he would produce an article for the July newsletter to inform members what was happening.</p>	<p>JD</p>
9	<p>Publicity Officer and Website Manager's Report: Kevin is receiving messages saying that there are too many files attached to the website and we are getting to the limit for memory. Kevin asked how long we should keep minutes and newsletters on the website, and should we create an archive. Colin suggested putting it onto an external drive. Kevin said he had a 64 gig USB drive he could use.</p> <p>Kevin expressed concern about adverts going out prior to the September monthly meeting (as part of the recruitment drive) if that meant we might have more people at the meeting</p>	<p>KS</p>

	<p>than the Abbey could hold. Colin suggested booking a second meeting specifically for new members. Kevin passed on David's idea of advertising a coffee morning for potential new members. Kevin suggested that he should remove the piece (in the advert) about guests being welcome. John suggested setting up another room, in the Abbey, with a large screen as an overflow. Wendy said that we would have a coffee morning but suggested that the decision about the advert could be deferred until the July meeting.</p> <p>Kevin said that the response to the adverts/leaflets was largely positive and asked if the committee were happy with them – they were. There was discussion about the size and frequency of the adverts and if they should go out in September or October. Wendy suggested that like the previous matter the decision could be deferred until the July meeting.</p> <p>Barrie said he believes there are a lot of people who are still very frightened to meet in person and feels that it might be a long time before members would be confident enough to come to the monthly meeting.</p> <p>Colin said he has had queries from some groups asking if they can impose their own restrictions over and above the Government's restrictions e.g. insisting that people have had two vaccinations and that they wear masks.</p> <p>Kevin asked if he could restart Book Group 1 at the end of July and the answer was yes.</p>	
10	<p>Newsletter Editor's Report: Alicia wasn't able to attend but said she was finalising the Newsletter and asked for any remaining articles.</p>	
11	<p>Group Liaison Secretary's Report: Colin has contacted convenors and said that if they are restarting their group then they must do Covid risk assessments, which has generated much discussion. Colin suggested that those groups not intending to restart until after July 19th should leave risk assessments for the moment. He has also encouraged groups to go ahead if they have done their risk assessment and are happy. Some convenors weren't happy with some of the things they had to sign (and accept responsibility for) on the Torch Centre booking form and he suggested leaving those blank. As long as convenors said they would comply with Government guidelines that was all they were qualified to do. The committee agreed. There was also the question as to whether our members were classed as vulnerable adults for the purposes of the form, and it was agreed that they weren't.</p> <p>Colin asked about him changing the website regarding groups. Some information was out of date, and he wanted to add information on possible new groups. Kevin said he would give Colin access so he could do that – he will send an email with the details.</p>	KS
12	<p>Events: Trebuchet challenge. - Colin said he will invite anyone interested, to come and build a basic catapult and see where they go from there.</p>	CA
13	<p>Regional and Third Age Trust: Nothing to report.</p>	

14	<p>A.O.B.: Wendy was approached by Kate Bramfitt following Wendy's letter in the Courant about the environment, inviting her to a Green Picnic. She also said Kate wanted to speak to the u3a. Wendy attended the picnic and invited her to the Environment Group.</p>	
15	<p>Date and time for next meeting: Thursday 22nd July 2021 at 2pm at Hexham Golf Club.</p>	

Meeting ended at 15:05



Signed:

Dated: 29.07.21