

**Minutes of Tynedale u3a Committee Meeting
held on Thursday 25th November 2021 at 2pm at Hexham Golf Club**

Present: Wendy Dale, Alicia Cresswell, Barrie Mellars, Colin Argent, David Pattinson, Kevin Stephens and Susan Turnbull

No.	Activity	Action/ person
1	Welcome and Apologies: John Dark	
2	Minutes of meeting held on 28 th October 2021 were accepted as a true record.	
3	<p>Matters Arising: Beacon: Wendy had been talking to John Sandiford and he had raised the difficulty he was having continuing to support Beacon. He said he wouldn't be able to continue. Wendy had told him they would be advertising the role at the AGM. David will put together a job description in the new year for entry into the Newsletter to try to get someone interested in taking it over.</p>	DP
4	<p>Chair's Report: Hadrian's Wall: There had been a number of emails since the last meeting expressing concern with the Hadrian's Wall Group website. The issues were significantly about Copyright. There were however also issues of typos and grammar. Colin had looked at the website with a view to promoting it next year to coincide with the Hadrian's Wall anniversary but he felt it would require too much work.</p> <p>Wendy had spoken with John about the copyright issue. He is satisfied that he has only uploaded images from google that do not require copyright. He had emailed later to say that he would provide an indemnity to Tynedale u3a against any claims that might arise.</p> <p>There were also issues relating to ownership of the site and its future when John was unable to continue with its development. John had told Wendy he was looking for someone in the Hadrian's Wall group to take on the website in the future.</p> <p>Tynedale u3a are due to pay for the website for the next two years, as agreed two years ago. The committee felt it should have control which would mean having access to any necessary passwords.</p> <p>The committee was unhappy with the website and no longer wanted to support it in its current form. After much discussion the view was formed that it would be better if the u3a were no longer associated with Hadrian's Wall group website. Wendy will contact</p>	WD

	<p>John to inform him of the committee's issues.</p> <p>New members' coffee morning There were 12 at the coffee morning but only one responding from the advert in the Courant. There would be no more coffee mornings until the New Year; the date to be discussed in December.</p> <p>Wendy brought in Christmas cards, for Convenors, for the committee to sign.</p> <p>Meeting with Prudhoe Prudhoe u3a have decided to have an open day to celebrate u3a day next September which is something we could also think about doing. It has been talked about and September would be a good time for recruitment purposes. It would also give sufficient time to engage with convenors on materials. We (and Prudhoe) would be able to advertise the open days in the same publicity and perhaps include Ponteland. Prudhoe have tried advertising in the Express and had a few responses. David added that the Express will send out our leaflets with the paper for a fee.</p>	
5	<p>Business Secretary's Report: All information received has been distributed.</p>	
6	<p>Treasurer's Report: David stated his responsibilities were putting together a budget, making sure we don't run out of cash and making sure our net assets don't exceed that recommended by the Charity Commission; he then reported on the document previously circulated and is attached. The figures suggest an overall healthy situation. The treasurer proposed that the membership fee remain the same for the next year and it was agreed, unanimously.</p> <p>Barrie asked about increasing the fee paid to speakers in order to attract better speakers. Barrie wasn't aware that the limit was £100 and that he could make a request for more to the committee if there was a special reason.</p>	
7	<p>Programme Secretary's Report: The last monthly meeting was well attended and about 26 attended on Zoom.</p> <p>Barrie has been to the Abbey to test the new equipment to see how well it worked with Zoom; it worked well. The only problem is we don't have a hand held microphone so at the beginning and the end we would have to just use the Abbey's microphone which the people on Zoom won't be able to hear.</p> <p>Speakers are booked until September 2022. July's speaker will be Michael Bentley who will talk about his year in the Antarctic.</p> <p>It was decided not to use Google to invite members to monthly meetings nor to provide tea and coffee for the next meeting.</p>	
8	<p>Membership Secretary's Report: John Dark wasn't able to attend but sent a short report. New applications have trickled in all month; 10 so far since end of October. There are 110 full members, and some associates, who have not renewed. John will be sending out about 40 outstanding cards tomorrow.</p>	

	<p>David brought up the question of how long non-renewed members should be allowed to remain active. If they are still classed as members we have to pay for their TAM magazine, potentially the capitation fee, the Beacon fee and costs relating to the newsletter. On top of that there is GDPR – we are holding records for people who are not paid up members and this should be kept to a minimum. David suggested making them ‘lapsed’ members 8 weeks after the beginning of the September renewal date.</p> <p>David also expressed concern that (according to Beacon) 8 convenors haven’t renewed and if they are not members they cannot run a group. David asked if Colin could contact them to see if they had or had not renewed. He suggested that anyone who hasn’t renewed should be contacted in person preferable by the convenor. Wendy suggested that committee members could look at the membership list and anyone they know, who hasn’t paid, could be reminded.</p> <p>It was agreed that there should be an article in the newsletter saying that if members don’t renew they will be lapsed. David said he would prepare something for Alicia.</p> <p>Wendy was concerned that some members had registered an email address but didn’t actually use the technology so weren’t getting the electronic information we were sending.</p>	CA DP
9	<p>Publicity Officer and Website Manager's Report: The advert in the Courant seems to be quite good and £100 for the bigger advert was more economic.</p> <p>The Forum cinema had contacted Kevin (at short notice) to ask if our u3a would sponsor a film at their film festival. It was decided not to and Kevin would let them know.</p> <p>Wendy said that she had been asked by Sue Loader for leaflets that she could circulate. She has ideas from when she has been doing similar work for the Talking Newspaper. She was going to deliver them to houses near her and to Estate Agents.</p>	KS
10	<p>Newsletter Editor's Report: Today is the deadline for contributions. The list of speakers has been included and as well as a membership renewal form. Wendy will send Alicia an article on the Flash Fiction event. Alicia hasn’t received enough book reviews to make an interesting article so she will leave it for this month but has plenty of other material.</p>	WD
11	<p>Group Liaison Secretary’s Report: Colin had previously circulated a report of the current situation regarding the groups (attached).</p> <p>Wendy told us of a Musical Instrument group which might be starting and Colin will contact them.</p> <p>Alicia brought us up to date on the potential new Yoga group. She has contacted possible members but things are still very fluid with only 4 interested at the moment. Alicia will keep Colin updated.</p>	CA AC
12	<p>Regional and Third Age Trust: Nothing to report.</p>	

13	A.O.B.: Barrie – DID is still popular with over 50 at the last session.	
14	Date and time for next meeting: Thursday 16 th December 2021 at 2pm at Hexham Golf Club.	

Meeting ended at 16:05



Signed:

Dated: 17.12.2021