

**Minutes of Tynedale u3a Committee Meeting
held on Thursday 27th October 2022 at Hexham Golf Club**

Present: Wendy Dale, Alicia Cresswell, John Dark, Colin Argent, David Pattinson, Sally Hewitt and Susan Turnbull

No.	Activity	Action/ person
1	Welcome and Apologies: Barrie Mellars, Lesley Parsons	
2	Minutes of meeting held on 22 nd September 2022 were accepted as a true record.	
3	Matters Arising: We discussed whether or not we should have done more to advertise the 40 th anniversary Bridge event but it was in the newsletter and on FB. We had been told that the Hexham Bridge Group had won the event therefore could choose the charity to receive the donation but a late registration had a higher score, so won. The national organiser agreed that our chosen charity (Chrysalis) would still receive a donation to compensate for the mix-up.	
4	<p>Chair's Report: The Open Day was very successful so congratulation to groups, convenors and everyone involved. The catering could have been better, we ran out of tea/coffee, and biscuits would have been an advantage. There was discussion on how often to repeat the open day and it was agreed every other year.</p> <p>Next year is Tynedale u3a's 40th anniversary and Wendy asked for suggestions as to how we could celebrate it. David suggested we ask for members' memories which could give us ideas. It was agreed that this would be mentioned at the monthly meeting and in the next newsletter. We could identify long standing members and previous committee members to ask. The history of Tynedale u3a could be the subject of a talk given at the AGM. Wendy to contact Margret Jacot to ask her for ideas and to front the session at the AGM.</p> <p>Wendy attended the TAT AGM via Zoom but had technical problems which made her unable to vote on the proposed motions; fortunately the vote went the way we wanted.</p> <p>As our u3a seconded an amendment, we have been invited to a meeting (expensed paid by TAT) in London to discuss what we wanted from TAT. Wendy didn't think it was appropriate to spend money on going down to London when the issue was their spending. The alternative was 2 zoom meetings but Wendy cannot attend either.</p> <p>David said that TAT were shaken by the unanimity of the response against them and they have set up a group from the regions to ask what is wanted from them and how they should restructure. David has agreed to be part of this group. David believes they should</p>	<p>AC WD DP</p>

	get back to basics and support u3as and not be a political lobbying group.	
5	Business Secretary's Report: All information received has been distributed.	
6	<p>Treasurer's Report: David submitted a report which is attached.</p> <p>The Open Day cost £431 and between 23rd of September and today we have 27 new members.</p> <p>David stressed the point that we needed a new Treasurer very soon because it takes time to get new names on the bank account and bills will still need to be paid. David also has a lot of information and contacts which need to be handed over. Barbara Redhead has expressed an interest but has said she is away for three or four weeks, two or three times a year and suggested she needed an assistant to cover her absence. There was discussion about a shared role and it was agreed that it would be in the interests of the committee to have a treasurer and assistant treasurer. Susan was asked if she was interested in being the assistant and she said she was but David said she shouldn't be assistant treasurer and business secretary. It was decided to advertise for an assistant as well as a business secretary and see what the response was. It was agreed to co-opt Barbara onto the committee straight away to get things moving. Wendy to contact Barbara about the committee's decision.</p> <p>David asked the committee to consider the budget for next year and Colin said we should budget £1200 for the Convenors' lunch.</p>	WD
7	<p>Programme Secretary's Report: Barrie wasn't able to attend.</p> <p>Wendy said that the last monthly meeting was good and 15 members attended on Zoom although some said they couldn't get onto Zoom.</p> <p>David said he would need the speaker budget for next year.</p>	
8	<p>Membership Secretary's Report: John submitted a report (attached).</p> <p>A significant number of members still preferred to use paper renewal forms.</p> <p>It was decided John would add to the email he sent new members giving them a list of groups and he will liaise with Colin who also sends members information. He also said he would confirm when they had renewed.</p> <p>The last coffee morning went well. It was decided that the next one would be late November or early December. Sally said that the last advert in the Courant hadn't helped with the numbers attending the coffee morning so it might be better to use it to advertise new groups and have it further forward in the newspaper. She added that the Courant prices were increasing in November. Colin suggested having an advert in January for the 40th anniversary saying who we are and what we do, which got the support of the meeting.</p> <p>John will reconcile payments with renewals and Colin will get an up-to-date list of group members, then we can make phone calls chasing up those who haven't renewed, which was very effective last year.</p>	JD JD CA
9	Publicity Officer's Report: Sally had prepared a report on the Open Day and Facebook.	

	<p>FB numbers haven't increased but sharing information about our monthly meeting with other groups seems to be effective. It would help if Sally had more news about current activities from groups.</p> <p>Sally mentioned about the Hexham Net Zero fair which we had been invited to but after discussion it was decided it wasn't appropriate for us.</p> <p>Sally has made enquiries about putting u3a information on the screens of the Sele and Burn Brae Medical Practices.</p>	
10	<p>Newsletter Editor's Report: There has been no response about a replacement for Alicia. She suggested that an assistant to the editor would be useful.</p>	
11	<p>Group Liaison Secretary's Report: Colin is sorting out how to accommodate new members and getting new groups formed.</p>	
12	<p>Beacon Administrator and Website Manager's Report: Lesley wasn't able to attend but sent an email report:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. No progress on twitter. An online form which might have been useful was a dead end. 2. The website is just ticking over. A couple of new risk assessment forms have been added to the convenors page from the list of new sample documents from TAT: one for walk leaders and one for home venues, and she has changed the picture on the home page which she plans to do fairly regularly. 	
13	<p>Events Secretary's Report: Wendy told us that Wendy Fail from NCC is going to give a presentation to the Environment group and she said she could arrange a visit to the recycling plant in Northumberland. This visit would also be open to non-members of the Environment group.</p> <p>DID – Was quite successful with about 35 or 36 listeners.</p> <p>The Garden Visiting group have offered to organise two visits next year for all of the membership, one would be to Edinburgh Botanic Gardens and one to West Yorkshire Sculpture Park.</p>	
14	<p>Regional and Third Age Trust: Sally and David attended a training event on Recruiting at Westerhope Community Centre. There was an exercise where Tynedale u3a was a pilot for the recruitment working group which produced a lot of information. This information is on David's computer but he has suggested it could be put somewhere accessible such as on Google Drive for those who are interested. Also it was said that word of mouth is always likely to be a successful way of getting new members, but they will be 'people like us'. The message from the meeting was that u3as should take care to attract the younger, newly retired and set up groups that will attract younger and a more diverse range of people.</p> <p>Colin went to a Convenors' Zoom meeting and he told us of Saltburn's Open day which was more like a community entertainment event.</p> <p>Wendy attended the Regional meeting and there was frustration with the TAT AGM and there was a workshop about what was wanted from Regional and National u3a.</p>	

15	<p>A.O.B.: David reminded us that stamps were changing to those with barcodes so we need to use the old ones.</p> <p>Lesley had highlighted that our policies need to be reviewed.</p> <p>Wendy asked if we were going to send Christmas cards to convenors. It was decided to do so and we could sign them at the next meeting.</p> <p>It was decided to change the date of the December committee meeting to Friday 16th at 10am; venue to be decided.</p>	
16	<p>Date and time for next meeting: Thursday 24th November 2022 at 2pm.</p>	



Signed:

Dated: 04.12.2022